



**THE GREAT SEAL OF THE HO-CHUNK NATION**

Covering the  
Ho-Chunk  
Nation

# HOCAK WORAK

Vol. XXVI, Issue 19
Ca Ma Hinaḡo wira | Deer Pawing Moon
October 12, 2012

**Obama answers questions from Indian Country**



Page 4

**Marc La Mere kicks guitar music to a higher notch**



Page 9

**Young artist and Mom collaborate.**



Page 16

# Obama visits UW-Madison

Marlon WhiteEagle  
Staff Writer

October 4, 2012. President Barack Obama visited the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus to campaign for a second term as the U.S. President. The president spoke for nearly a half an hour about how he wants to lead America on the UW's Bascom Hill before 30,000 voters.

The night prior saw the president in the first of three presidential debates. President Obama and Republican candidate Mitt Romney debated at the University of Denver. Some media believe Romney won the debate. The Obama campaign asked the president to speak to the audience at home and that Romney was not his audience.

Before speaking the president acknowledged the UW men's basketball team, who invited him to play basketball. Obama also acknowledged Senators Herb Kohl and Tammy Baldwin, and Madison Mayor Paul Soglin.

The president urged voters to vote early. Wisconsin voters can vote as early as October 22 by contacting their county clerk office. Obama won Wisconsin in 2008 with one of

five votes from those who voted early. Wisconsin has voted for a Republican since 1984, but with Janesville native, Paul Ryan, on the Republican ticket; Obama is working extra hard to secure the popular and electoral votes.

Air Force One landed at Dane County Regional Airport just after 2:30 pm on the day of the president's visit. Driving into Madison, there were county, city, and state law enforcement throughout the area. One exit before the Exit 132, I saw the first of many law enforcement units out this day. Many parked along Highway 51 to see the president land at the airport.

After parking one block of the capitol, I walked down to the end of State Street towards the entry into the speech area. In the distance, you could hear the cheers of the president's audience as presenters hyped up the crowd. The chatter up and down State Street was that the speech audience area was filled to capacity before 1 p.m., just an hour after the doors opened. The president was scheduled to talk around 3 p.m.

I walked as far as University Avenue and Park Street. I stood at the intersection with hundreds of people hoping to catch a glimpse of the president's motorcade. The streets were barricaded and attended by local law enforcement. There were law enforcement on foot, horse, bike, and car. Periodically, police motorcycles would pass by. Next, a helicopter circled up and down the president's route to the campaign event site. We all stood and waited not knowing if the president would be passing before us. When headlights came into sight down Park Street, the crowd began to cheer thinking the motorcade was beginning. After several helicopter



**President Obama on his way to campaign at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.**

and law enforcement vehicle patrols, the president's motorcade came into sight. "The Beast" drove right passed me. I saw President Barack Obama wave as he and his motorcade drove by. The presidential vehicle, Cadillac One, is an armored and equipped with advanced technology and safeguards to protect the president from any kind of attack. It is said to carry an extra supply of the president's blood type in the trunk in case of emergency. The crowd was happy and satisfied to see the president drive by.

In his speech, President Obama recapped the debate. Obama said, "Last night I debated this guy who resembled my opponent, Mitt Romney. This guy last night said he doesn't plan to have five trillion dollar tax cuts, while Mitt Romney has been campaigning on this tax cuts for the last year. The real Mitt Romney said let Detroit go bankrupt. This guy last night said he would close loop holes for the wealthiest Americans to pay more taxes. The real Mitt Romney wants the middle class to pay just as much as

these millionaires."

The President continued, "I want to crackdown on Wall Street for creating a huge national deficit, my opponent wants to crackdown on Sesame Street. I didn't know Big Bird was the one causing us to lose so much money. My opponent flip-flops on issue because he doesn't want to be held accountable. I believe in a strong middle class. In my 2008 campaign, I said I would end the war in Iraq, I did that. I said I'd work to withdraw troops from Afghanistan; we are doing that right now. I said we fight the al-Qaeda and the Taliban, Osama bin Laden is dead."

President Obama concluded by saying, "Wisconsin, I want your vote to elect me to another term as your President." The crowd began chanting, four more years, four more years. Obama said, "In 2008, John McCain received 47% of the vote. I told that 47% I hear your voice. I'm not creating Democrat or Republican jobs, I'm not improving schools in

red states or blue states; I'm improving schools for the United States. I'm for hard work and for everyone to have a fair shot."

President Obama and Governor Mitt Romney will meet in two more debates: on October 16 at Hofstra University in Hempstead, New York, and on October 22 at Lynn University in Boca Raton, Florida.



## INSIDE SCOOP...

Letters	Page 2
News	Page 3
Obama	Page 4
News	Page 5
Education	Page 6-7
Guitarist	Page 8-10
Legislative	Page 11
Prevention	Page 12
Event / Ad	Page 13
Notices	Page 14
Announcements	Page 15
Good News	Page 16

*Want something special placed in the Hockak Worak? Limited space is available so send your request in early. Submissions will be handled on a first come first serve basis.*

Standard Mail  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 203  
Eau Claire, WI

**HOCAK WORAK NEWSPAPER**  
P.O. BOX 667  
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI 54615

**HOCAK WORAK NEWSPAPER**  
TEL: (800) 472-3089 FAX: (715) 284-7852  
Please notify the Newspaper of  
any address changes or corrections

# How would I describe General Council?

*Ambushed* is the first word I would use to describe General Council this year. I have tried to read up on things involving the proceedings of the Ho-Chunk Nation and I have tried to keep informed and up to date on a lot of things; however, this was no preparation for General Council.

This year as I attended General Council, I watched the GCA in their bid to, "Rise to Power!" It wasn't the intention of the people to empower non-elected officials (appointed custodians) to be, "The Voice" of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

The intent of the creation of the GCA was to take care of the details of planning and caring for our people. Is there a place to meet? Is it large enough to hold the required numbers for quorum? Will our people be comfortable? Will our elders and children have something to eat? How will everyone get there? How much is it to feed our people? We were focused on the care of our people during the General Council Meetings when the GCA was thought of.

I myself was appointed by the La Crosse area to be on the GCA (at least 10 years ago). Well I couldn't make it all the time and only attended one meeting when I could and received meeting minutes for a few others. (At this point in time I was going to school at UW-L and had other obligations and no car, so I gave up my part in the GCA at that time.)

As for General Council; over the years we passed resolutions and more resolutions and more resolutions. But NO ONE was ever required to act upon them, and that was the opening of the door for the GCA to jump in and be appointed by their areas so that they could appoint themselves as, "THE Voice" of the HO CHUNK

NATION.

I don't know about that! We obviously need someone looking out for General Council and its resolutions/determinations...but maybe it should be someone voted in or appointed at large by/of for the people. When someone says they represent "General Council" I sure as heck want to know that I voted for them or against them. When someone says they represent GCA I am not sure they have anything important that I have to address as long as they do their duties and see to the smooth proceedings of the gathering that takes place at General Council (I don't mean to belie their importance but their capacity should merely to make the assemblage functional).

Uninformed is my next word to describe General Council this year. How many times do I get to go to General Council and see people expediting or attempting to expedite funds from here or there? "Oh we have this much here and we need this much over here and we can take from there and put it here? It won't hurt anyone and it can only help if we do this."

What is wrong with this is that there isn't any real discussion about these resolutions, we show up and suddenly someone wants hundreds of thousands of dollars for starters meanwhile someone else wants millions. Isn't this what we have the Office of the President and Legislature for? To make informed decisions on what is best for our money? Can't people work within the system on how to best appropriate funds to meet these needs in a more controlled atmosphere?

Where is the thousand page business plan that we can peruse to see where each and every single cent is going?

What does the budget consist of? Who is eligible to receive these resources? Where are the specifics of how this program or that program will benefit the Ho-Chunk People? What are the qualifications? What percent of the Ho-Chunk People will this serve? What do the studies say? Are there studies? If none...then why?

As far as the apportionment of tribal dollars, we are supposed to decide this in a matter of minutes?...those few moments it takes to read the resolution and hear 3 or 4 people's opinions about the resolutions before voting yeah go ahead let's tag this money for this purpose, (and "Why?"...because there are no consequences?)

In a sense I think some look at General Council as a GIANT Sleeping Santa Clause that wakes up once a year and has tribal members jumping all over him like children asking for their wishes to be granted. He doesn't know exactly what they want or why...he doesn't understand what granting these things will do or mean for the Ho-Chunk Nation only that he has to say "Yes or No" (and NOW) and the fortuitous or disastrous outcome of this whim is something that has to be faced by the entire tribe. What do we risk every year? Being ambushed as we are?

The thing that gets to me is that there is supposed to be a process to proposing resolutions, that there are supposed to be resources for informed resolutions and that people are supposed to do their homework in making out these resolutions. Well, where is the homework for the people? Where do I go to get informed about these "resolutions?" Is there a flyer stating the pros and cons of each resolution? Is there a way to view the business plans of those asking for

those hundreds of thousands, even millions of dollars?

In order to help the people up to date wouldn't it be wiser to have "Informational sessions" regarding resolutions the week before or even the night before? Wouldn't this help people understand what they are voting for? It takes work to be informed and make proper decisions...to ask proper questions, to give proper answers, to find elegant solutions, to find reasonable compromise, to make a difference.

And sadly the last thing it takes is to do something right is TIME, something tribal members don't seem to have enough of. How long did general council last, (er rather how short was General Council)?

I don't want to show up to General Council and be steam-rolled, or bullied into voting for anything. I want what's best for the Ho-Chunk Nation and I want to understand what specifically these resolutions mean for the Ho-Chunk Nation. I want to know where the money is going. I want to know what good it's doing. I want to know that someone is benefitting. I don't care who or what. I just want to know that someone is receiving the services that they need.

So in the end, I apologize for offending anyone or disagreeing with anyone or embellishing ideals of the general populace of the Ho-Chunk Nation as being, "Giant Santa Clauses." But I would hope that things can/would be done differently and better as far as communication and presentation for those ideals/resolutions discussed at General Council.

Thank You,  
Wyatt Falcon  
"Chaj-Shep-Eskaja"

## Getting out the vote



Collin Price, public relations officer, conducted a voter registration drive on Wednesday, Sept. 26, to encourage employees to register to vote along with provide voting information such as deadlines, polling sites, and check their registration status. The event materials were provided by Nativevote.org. The organization has been extremely helpful to Natives throughout the country by providing tools and merchandise to tribes willing to put on an event, Price said. He will be attending area meetings next week to answer voting questions and register voters.

## Are you looking for a job?

### Eligibility Requirements:

- A. Unemployment 7 days or more unemployed OR
- B. Working for the same employer for 6 months with little or no chance of promotion or advancement (Base Wage equal or less than \$12.00 hour required) OR
- C. Received a bona-fide notice of impending lay-off, with little opportunity of rehire in the same or equivalent occupation.

You must be an enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe or a descendant of a tribal member.

You must reside in the 39 county service areas in Wisconsin.

### Supportive Services

- Uniforms
- Safety shoes
- Car insurance (1 Month Liability)
- Tools
- Professional Supplies
- Lunch Assistance
- Gas Assistance

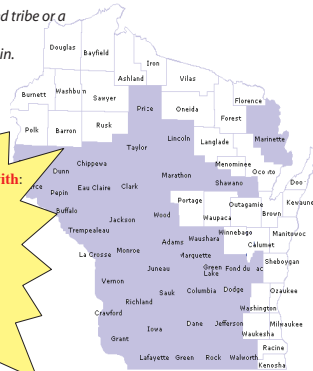
Can't come to us?

We can come to you

We offer Help with:  
Resumes  
Applications  
Typing Tutor  
One on one Trainings  
GED/HSED  
Mock Interviews

Call the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Labor and ask to speak with a 477 Case Manager 715-284-5877

## Need more training to get that promotion?





# Ho-Chunk Nation Judiciary Hosts 17th Annual Law Day Event

By John Kellis  
Reprinted with permission  
from Ho-Chunk Nation  
Court Bulletin

On Thursday, October 4, 2012, the Ho-Chunk Nation Judiciary hosted the 17th annual Law Day. For those unfamiliar with the event, Law Day is a community education effort designed to serve the Ho-Chunk Nation and general public by providing valuable insight into the legal system. It also serves the Ho-Chunk Nation Bar Association and other local attorneys by providing continuing legal education credits for the State Bar of Wisconsin.

This year, Law Day began with the presentation titled

*Protecting Tribal Youth: the Wisconsin Indian Child Welfare Act.* Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice Attorneys Rebecca L. Maki and Patina K. Park-Zink provided those in attendance with a thorough review of state and federal laws and their effects on child protection proceedings and out-of-home placements of tribal youth. In the second presentation, *Logic and Legal Writing: Crafting Effective Brief & Opinions*, Associate Trial Court Judge Amanda L. Rockman presented essential strategies of effective legal writing. Following the lecture, attendees divided into groups to meet with Chief Trial Court Judge Jo Deen B.

Lowe, Associate Trial Court Judge Amanda L. Rockman, and Staff Attorneys Samuel Crowfoot and John Kellis to review writing samples and gather constructive feedback.

Finally, Law Day would not be complete without additional cultural and enjoyable festivities. Prior to the afternoon presentations, participants were welcomed to the Skyline Golf Course for an opportunity to become better acquainted at a nine-hole, best-ball golf outing. The Honorable James Mohr of the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Court and the Honorable Gary Smith of the Lac du Flambeau Tribal Court displayed outstanding skill on their way to victory, earning them each apparel prizes.

In the evening, the Judiciary welcomed the general public to a potluck dinner and social dance celebrating sobriety and dedication of the Ho-Chunk Nation Healing to Wellness Court participants. With the assistance of Wilbert Cleveland, William Collins, and fellow Healing to Wellness Court participant Marcella Redbird, Moses Cleveland added extra



**Front:** Hon. Jean Webster, Oneida Tribal Judicial System; Hon. Kathy Hughes, Oneida Tribal Judicial System; Hon. Shannon Cobe, Lac Du Flambeau Tribal Court; Hon. Winnifred Thomas, Oneida Tribal Judicial System. **Middle:** Hon. Mary Adams, Oneida Tribal Judicial System; Hon. Sandra Skenandore, Oneida Tribal Judicial System; Hon. Crystal Wiggins, St. Croix Tribal Court; Hon. Jeryl Perenich, Forrest County Potawatomi Tribal Court; Hon. Penny Bearheart, St. Croix Tribal Court. **Back:** Hon. Jo Deen B. Lowe, Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court; Hon. Lois Powless, Oneida Tribal Judicial System; Hon. Janice McLeester, Oneida Tribal Judicial System; Hon. Amanda L. Rockman, Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court; Hon. Eugene Whitefish, Forrest County Potawatomi Tribal Court; Hon. Gary Smith, Lac Du Flambeau Tribal Court; Hon. James Mohr, Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Court; Hon. Leland Ninham, Oneida Tribal Judicial System; Clerk Wayne Malone, Sr., Stockbridge Munsee Tribal Court; Dr. Larry Nesper, UW-Madison; James Botsford, Wisconsin Judiciary.

anticipation to the dinner by preparing a pig roast as the main course. Many in attendance later gathered their tribal regalia and enjoyed the amazing social dance which

followed. The Judiciary sincerely thanks those who coordinated and attended the event and encourages everyone to attend next year.

## FOOT EXAMS AND NAIL CARE WILL BE OFFERED AT THE WITTENBERG TAU TWICE MONTHLY



**NOVEMBER  
6th & 20th  
DECEMBER  
4th & 18th**

(OR AS NEEDED BY APPOINTMENT)

**9:30 AM - 2:30 PM**

For more information or questions please call:  
Community Health Nurse Judy  
715-253-3820 or 715-893-3075

## 2012 Flu Clinics

**Tomah (patient registration will assist)**

10/16/12 Tomah area meeting 5-6:30 pm

10/30/12 Tomah Health Office 9-3

**La Crosse (patient registration will assist)**

10/15/12 Three Rivers House 2-7:30

**Madison**

10/17/12 Madison District Meeting at Branch Office 5-6:30

**Wittenberg (patient registration will assist)**

10/29/12 Ho Chunk Gaming Wittenberg 9:30 - 2

10/8/12 Wittenberg Area Mtg 3-7 pm (Potch Chee Nunk Bldg)

10/9/12 Wittenberg Tau from 11-12

10/30/12 Wittenberg Tau from 11-12

10/10/12 Wittenberg Food Distribution from 9-1pm.

**Nekoosa (patient registration will assist)**

10/25/12 Ho Chunk Gaming Nekoosa 930-330

**Black River Falls**

10/18/12 (CHNs) 9-4pm at HHCC

10/22/12 (clinic RNs) 7-8 am at HHCC

10/24/12 Head Starts

10/25/12 (clinic RNs) 7-8 am at HHCC

10/25/12 TAU BRF from 10-2

10/26/12 Ho Chunk Gaming BRF 7-10 and 1-5

10/29/12 from 4:30 - 5:30 pm (Clinic RNs) at HHCC

11/01/12 from 4:30 - 5:30 pm (Clinic RNs) at HHCC

**Baraboo**

10/15/12 House of Wellness District Meeting 4:30-6:30

10/22/12 TAU WI DELLS 10-1

10/25/12 House of Wellness (Employees) 9:30-3:30

11/1/12 Ho Chunk Gaming Baraboo 7:30-3:30

11/6/12 Mauston Language Center 9:30-12

11/8/12 Ho Chunk Gaming Baraboo 2:30-6:30

**Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be Oct. 19th which will be published on Oct. 26. Please contact Enrollment at ext. 1015 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.**



## Save the Date

### 7TH ANNUAL DM JOURNEY OF HOPE CONFERENCE

Thursday November 8th & Friday November 9th

Ho-Chunk Casino/Convention Center

Breakfast and Lunch will be provided on November 8th, 2012  
Breakfast only will be provided Friday November 9th, 2012

To reserve a room or for more information please contact:  
Lyndsey Owen, CMA 888-685-4422 ext. 5068  
Limited Rooms available

Reservations accepted through October 20th, 2012

Funded by the Special Diabetes Program for Indians

The Hocak Worak is a periodical published twice monthly by the Ho-Chunk Nation. Editorials and articles appearing in the Hocak Worak are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Hocak Worak staff or the Ho-Chunk Nation.

The Hocak Worak encourages the submission of letters to the Editor. All letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author. Letters are subject to editing for grammar, length, malicious and libelous content.

The Hocak Worak reserves the right to reject any advertising, material, or letters submitted for publication. The submission of articles, poetry, artwork and photos is encouraged. The Editor makes the sole decision of what is published in the Hocak Worak. The Hocak Worak will not assume any responsibility for unsolicited material.

Submissions deadlines for the Hocak Worak are by 4:30 PM. We cannot guarantee the publication of submissions meeting these deadlines if the space is not available. No part of this publication may be produced without express written consent from the Editor.

INTERIM EDITOR .....Sherman Funmaker  
STAFF WRITER .....Marlon WhiteEagle  
STAFF WRITER .....Ken Luchterhand  
Administrative Assistant .....Anna Reichenbach

The Hocak Worak  
is a member of:

The Native American  
Journalist Association



### HOCAK WORAK NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 667  
Black River Falls, WI 54615

• PHONE: (800) 472-3089

• FAX: (715) 284-7852

• ONLINE:

www.ho-chunknation.com

www.hocakworak.com

# President Obama answers questions from Indian Country Today Media Network in unprecedented exchange

This article originally ran in the October 10, 2012 issue of This Week in Indian Country Today Reprinted with permission by Indian Country Today Media Network. © 2012

Claiming that his record shows he is more committed than his opponent in the upcoming presidential election to serving Indian country, President Barack Obama has answered questions about some of the major issues facing American Indian citizens and tribes today.

"[With me] as president, you have a voice in the White House," he tells Indian Country Today Media Network. "We're moving forward, but there's more work to do. But we are seeing a turning point in the relationship between our nations, and ultimately our relationship is not just a matter of legislation or a matter of policy. It's a matter of whether we're going to live up to our basic values."

Not only is this the first time President Obama has done a Q&A with the American Indian press, it is believed to be the first time a sitting president of the United States has conducted such an interview with Native media. It's a first that aligns with the image Obama has worked hard to cultivate in Indian country. Adopted as "One Who Helps People Throughout the Land" when he was campaigning for president on the Crow Nation reservation in May 2008, he has since hired several Native American staffers, held three annual tribal summits and taken administrative action on multiple long-standing trust and water settlements. He has also supported and signed pro-tribal legislation, including the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, the Tribal Law and Order Act and the Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Homeownership [HEARTH] Act. His record has pleased many tribal leaders; some hail him as one of the best presidents for Indian country in recent history.

This landmark Q&A—conducted via e-mail—is the first installment in a series of interviews ICTMN will be conducting this election season with federal, state, local and tribal officials.

Why should American Indians vote for you this time around? What has been your proudest accomplishment to date on behalf of American Indians?

[With me] as president, you have a voice in the White House. Since the earliest days of my administration, we've been working hand in hand between our nations to keep that promise through a comprehensive strategy to help meet the challenges facing Native American communities.

That starts with improving the economy and creating jobs. One of the keys to unlocking economic growth on reservations is investments in roads and high-speed rail and high-speed Internet and the infrastructure that will better connect your communities to the broader economy and draw capital and create jobs on tribal lands. That's why my administration has boosted infrastructure investments through the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Reservation Roads Program, and we've offered loans to reach reservations with broadband.

We've also made critical investments into pressing needs like renovating schools and devoting resources to job training, especially for young people in Indian country. And we're working with you to restore tribal homelands in order to help you develop your economies. When it comes to creating jobs, closing the opportunity gap, and leaving something better for our future generations, few areas hold as much promise as clean energy. Native American lands hold great potential wind and solar energy resources, and the potential for solar energy is even higher. My administration will continue to invest in our clean energy future to strengthen our economies and our energy security.

But if we're going to bring real and lasting change for our nations one thing we need to do is make health care more accessible and affordable. We know that as long as Native Americans die of illnesses like tuberculosis, alcoholism, diabetes, pneumonia and influenza at far higher rates than the rest of the population, then we're going to have to do more to address disparities in health care delivery. The health reform law that I signed, now called Obamacare—which I like because I do care—includes the permanent reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA), which authorizes new programs and services within the Indian Health Service, helping more folks get the care they need.

So we're making progress. We're moving forward, but there's more work to do. But we are seeing a turning point in the relationship between our nations, and ultimately our relationship is not

just a matter of legislation or a matter of policy. It's a matter of whether we're going to live up to our basic values. It's a matter of upholding an ideal that has always defined who we are as Americans: e pluribus Unum—out of many, one. And I'm confident that if we continue to work together, that we will live up to this simple motto and we will achieve a brighter future for the First Americans and for all Americans.

What does tribal sovereignty mean to you? What is the best way to resolve conflicts between tribal nations and the federal and state governments?

I believe that treaty commitments are paramount law, and I will strive to fulfill these commitments as president. This means providing quality, affordable health care and improving education quality on reservations across America.

As promised, my administration has hosted annual meetings with Native American leaders to ensure that tribal nations have an opportunity to work directly with cabinet members and agency officials to craft a policy agenda together. I also issued an executive order instructing agencies to develop plans for consultation and coordination with tribal governments, which has resulted in historic levels of engagement. Additionally, I have hired Native American personnel at high levels throughout the administration to advise on policies that directly impact tribal communities. Through meaningful dialogue, together we can move toward partnerships in addressing the needs of Indian country.

Obama with Navajo Code Talkers at the White House Tribal Nations Conference in 2011. (AP Photo)

Do you believe in a clean Carcieri fix? If so, what do you think it would look like? If not, why not?

The Supreme Court's recent ruling in *Carcieri v. Salazar* held that under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 the federal government cannot take land into trust for Indian tribes not under federal jurisdiction in 1934. To address the United States Supreme Court's decision, for the past two years my budgets have included language reaffirming the Secretary of the Interior's authority to take land into trust for all federally recognized Indian tribes.

How have you tried to balance federal budgetary spending with the trust responsibility and obligations to tribes called for in the Constitution and treaties? How do you feel about the Bureau of Indian Affairs? Indian Health Service? Do you see a need for reform?

I believe that strong and stable tribal governments built through self-determination are the key to overcoming great challenges. As such, my administration is engaged in a wide range of activities to support tribal self-determination, and my proposed budget increases funding to compensate tribes for the work they perform in managing federal programs under self-determination contracts and self-governance compacts.

Combating crime in Indian country requires cooperative efforts by federal, state and tribal entities. In July 2010, I signed the Tribal Law and Order Act, which addresses many of the public safety challenges that confront tribal communities, including increased funding to operate newly constructed detention centers. My budget also proposes increased funds for tribal courts and additional law enforcement officers, coordinates community policing programs to reduce crime and protects natural resources in Indian country.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service are critical to removing obstacles to build and promote tribal self-determination and strong and stable government institutions, while promoting job creation and access to health care. Through Indian affairs programs, tribes can improve the quality of life for their members, and support education, job training and employment opportunities. My proposed budget maintains this commitment by providing \$2.5 billion in total budget authority for such services. To build on our commitment to increase access to health care for American Indians and Alaska Natives, my budget provides \$4.4 billion for the Indian Health Service, in order to make key investments in clinical services and staffing, tribally operated health programs and health facilities construction.

Do you understand tribal and Indian concerns relating to the Keystone XL pipeline?

My administration is conducting a thorough and rigorous review of the Keystone pipeline. We are weighing many critical issues involved in



Obama with Navajo Code Talkers at the White House Tribal Nations Conference in 2011. (AP Photo)

the decision, including impacts to public health, potential threats to water supplies, climate change and impacts on cultural and natural resources, especially across large areas of Indian country and water sources along the pipeline's route. These issues, along with American energy security and economic factors, have been and will continue to be closely considered in the administration's future decisions. On the other hand, my opponent, Governor Romney, has said he would approve the pipeline on day one of his term, regardless of concerns like impacts on communities and the environment.

Do you see a need for more federal economic development opportunities for tribes and reservations to resolve the problem of poverty on reservations?

While we have made progress in restarting job creation—with 4.6 million private sector jobs created over the past 30 months [as of press time]—I believe much more needs to be done to put Americans back to work. While the current economic crisis has challenged all Americans, we know this to be especially true for Indian country, where some reservations face unemployment rates of up to 80 percent. Though the economic challenges of Indian country are significant, I am committed to building strong, prosperous Native American economies.

My proposed budget includes funding and proposals to support business growth and access to credit in Indian country, to continue to expand job creation opportunities, to give all children in Indian country a fair shot at success by improving K-12 education and expanding access to college, and to assist with winter fuel costs. I have also proposed a 10 percent increase from 2012 enacted levels in grants to Indian tribes, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and tribal nonprofit organizations that provide employment and training services to unemployed and low-income Native Americans, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians. The additional funding in the coming year will allow grantees to serve more participants and expand their emphasis on helping individuals advance along career pathways.

Why do you think there is/was so much resistance to the Violence Against Women Act? Do you think tribal courts should have authority to make judgments against nontribal citizens who commit crimes on tribal territory as a means to lower crime rates?

Native American women suffer from domestic violence at some of the highest rates in the United States. And we know that there are countless more victims of domestic violence and sexual assault whose stories may never be told. Some of the abusers of Native American women go unpunished because tribes cannot prosecute non-Indians, even if the offender lives on the reservation and is married to a tribal member.

Romney refuses to stand up to the Republicans in Congress who blocked these crucial improvements to the Violence Against Women Act. I believe that Congress should close the jurisdictional gap in the criminal justice system and provide tribes with the authority to hold offenders accountable for their crimes against Native American women, regardless of the perpetrator's race. The reauthorization addresses these issues that made it difficult to prosecute abusers on tribal lands in some cases. Tribal courts' jurisdiction over domestic violence will be recognized, and tribal courts authority to enforce protection orders will be clarified. Congress should act on this today. VAWA provides helpful resources to the tribes, but without addressing the jurisdictional gap, those tools only go so far.

# Cobell v. Salazar settlement important update from class counsel:

On May 22, 2012, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit held that the appeals are without merit. Kimberly Craven filed with the U.S. Supreme Court a petition for a writ of certiorari on August 20, 2012. Carol Eve Good Bear, Mary Aurelia Johns, and Charles Columbe asked for and received an extension of time and now must file their consolidated petition on or before September 19. The U.S. Court of Appeals held that their arguments are "utterly without merit." Payments to individual Indians cannot be made until the appeals of Kimberly Craven, Carol Eve Good

Bear, Mary Aurelia Johns, and Charles Columbe are exhausted. Further, until their appeals are exhausted, no money is available to Indian students for scholarships and no money is available to purchase fractionated land ownership interests that would be given to tribes.

You may be a part of this Settlement with certain rights in this Settlement if you are an:

- Individual Indian Money ("IIM") account holder (even if the account is currently not active or open),
- Individual Indian who has or had an ownership interest in land held in trust or in

restricted status,

- Heir to a deceased IIM account holder or individual landowner.

To be eligible for any payments under the Settlement, you must be a member of one or both Classes.

Please note that if you are currently receiving IIM account statements you did not need to file a claim form. The claim filing deadline was Friday, September 16, 2011 and applies only to those who do not meet any of the above criteria for Class Membership. If you believe you are a Class Member but are unsure of whether we have your current

contact information, please contact us at the toll-free help line (800-961-6109) or via email at IIMInfo@IndianTrust.com. Please note, we are still accepting additional information from Class Members so that we may appropriately make connections to Class Member records.

## Please Be Aware

Some people are offering to make loans or do other business with Class Members (IIM Trust Beneficiaries) who will receive payments from the settlement when it is final.

The Plaintiffs in Cobell v. Salazar have NOT authorized or endorsed any such activity.

Please be careful about releasing your bank account numbers or other confidential information to others. If you have any questions, please call the Toll-Free number (800-961-6109).

## Important Notice:

Please note, if you are a Class Member you do not have to pay any money to the Indian Trust Settlement under any circumstances in order to receive your benefits. If someone asks you for some kind of payment and claims to be from the Indian Trust Settlement please do not send any money.

# National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA)

Submitted by Heather Cloud, District III Representative

I attended the Mid-year NIGA conference for several reasons. Two main areas of interest of mine are the General Welfare and online gaming. The General Welfare impacts our entire membership because the Ho-Chunk Nation provides services, funding and assistance to our people. The IRS has issued publications that allow for taxation of programs, services and/or monies give to tribal members in a manner in which NIGA

has witnessed to be of concern across all of Indian Country. I was able to take part in some of this discussion but not in its entirety due to the fact that my main objective was to attend the Condensed Commissioner Certification Course.

The first day of the course went over online gaming that is before Congress at this time. There were also overviews of the role of Tribal government, operations and the Gaming Commission. Day two was an entire day of game protection by a renowned expert witness

and consulting investigator, George Joseph. There was also information presented on the hearing process and due process in regards to gaming licensing. Day three addressed many regulatory issues and reporting processes.

I have attached the agenda in which attendance was mandatory in order to be certified by NIGA. I have also attached information on George Joseph for those who may be interested in learning more about casino cheats and scams. Lastly, attached is the certification for the training. All attendees were

provided with a binder of the PowerPoint presentations given. I will provide a copy upon request. The certification is beneficial to my position with Legislature as I am now more cognizant to the internal processes of the Nation's Gaming Commission. At this time, there is not a date of expiration for the certification. The instructors have informed attendees the NIGA is working towards setting a time-frame for recertification with anticipations of it being three to five years from the date of certification.

I have taken quite an

interest in the duties, role and responsibilities of the National Indian Gaming Association, as their advocacy for all tribes and tribal governments is paramount. Their efforts and presence in Washington, DC is phenomenal. Indian Gaming is the largest sector of any gaming in the United States and it's not only tribes that reap the benefits of our endeavors. NIGA is continuously looking for support and the Ho-Chunk Nation has generously contributed.

## CORRECTIONS TO THE Sept. 28, 2012 Publication of Approved Applicants

Please add the following individual applicants they have met the requirements for the Ho-Chunk Nation tribal membership in accordance with the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation and the Tribal Enrollment and Membership Code. This final determination was made by the Enrollment Officer. This determination may be appealed to the Committee on Tribal Enrollment (contact the Office of Tribal Enrollment) by an adult (over 18 years of age) enrolled Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Member within sixty (60) days from the date of the September 28, 2012 Publication of Approved Applicants.

APPLICANT NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	BLOOD QUANTUM	ANCESTOR	FATHER	MOTHER
CHAPMAN, Elysia Yvonne	11/08/2011	1/4	A Hoo Kee Na Win Kah Ella Manly-Mallory 1901 - #01314	Marcus Tsonne Chapman	-----
GORSH, Alexander John	08/23/2008	1/4	Ma Zhee Wee Kah Thunder Cloud 1881 - #00149	-----	Angela Lea Nicholson Thundercloud
HART, Malachi	10/14/2011	1/4	Shunk Ska Kah White Dog 1881 - #00153	Samuel Lewis Lee	-----
JONES, Jerry Dean III	02/19/2011	7/16	Neige Ah Me Nunk Kah Peter Rockman 1901 - #01112	-----	Destinee Rae Link

<p><b>SUMMONS</b> (First Publication) <b>IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT</b></p> <p><b>Betty White, Plaintiff(s), v. Dion Funmaker, Defendant(s).</b></p> <p>Case : CV 12-58</p> <p><b>TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT(S):</b> <b>Dion Funmaker</b></p> <p>You are hereby informed that you have been named a defendant in the above-entitled civil lawsuit. This legal notice of the Complaint is now served upon you by publication. Your written Answer to the Complaint must be filed with the Court on or before the twentieth day from the date of the published issuance of this Summons in . See Ho-Chunk Nation Rules of Civil Procedure, Rules 5(C)(1)(f), 6(A). Also, you must send or present a copy of your Answer to the opposing party listed above or to their attorney of record and provide the Court with a Certificate of Service. Failure to file a timely Answer in the time allowed can result in a default judgment being entered against you. Id., Rule 54.</p> <p>The Trial Court is physically located at Wa Ehi Hocira, W9598 Highway 54 East, Black River Falls, (Jackson County) Wisconsin. The Trial Court's mailing address is P. O. Box 70, Black River Falls, WI 54615. The telephone number is (715) 284-2722, or toll free 800-434-4070, and the facsimile number is (715) 284-3136.</p>	<p><b>SUMMONS</b> (First Publication) <b>IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT</b></p> <p><b>State of Wisconsin &amp; Adam J. Buttner, Petitioner, v. Kaitlin Scholze, Respondent.</b></p> <p>Case : CS 12-62</p> <p><b>TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:</b> <b>Kaitlin Scholze</b></p> <p>You are hereby informed that you have been named a respondent in the above-entitled civil lawsuit. This legal notice of the Petition to Register &amp; Enforce a Foreign Judgment or Order is now served upon you by publication. Your written Answer to the Petition must be filed with the Court on or before the twentieth day from the date of the second published issuance of this Summons. You may request a hearing within your written response. See RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS ORDINANCE, 4 HCC § 2.5. Also, you must send or present a copy of your Answer to the opposing party listed above or to their attorney of record. Failure to file a timely Answer in the time allowed can affect your right to object to the enforcement of the foreign judgment or order. Id., § 2.6c.</p> <p>The Trial Court is physically located at Wa Ehi Hocira, W9598 Highway 54 East, Black River Falls, (Jackson County) Wisconsin. The Trial Court's mailing address is P. O. Box 70, Black River Falls, WI 54615. The telephone number is (715) 284-2722, or toll free 800-434-4070, and the facsimile number is (715) 284-3136.</p>	<p><b>SUMMONS</b> (First Publication) <b>IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT</b></p> <p><b>Nona Danforth, Petitioner, v. Vincente Vega, Respondent.</b></p> <p>Case : CS 12-62</p> <p><b>TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT:</b> <b>Vincente Vega</b></p> <p>You are hereby informed that you have been named a respondent in the above-entitled civil lawsuit. This legal notice of the Petition to Register &amp; Enforce a Foreign Judgment or Order is now served upon you by publication. Your written Answer to the Petition must be filed with the Court on or before the twentieth day from the date of the second published issuance of this Summons. You may request a hearing within your written response. See RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS ORDINANCE, 4 HCC § 2.5. Also, you must send or present a copy of your Answer to the opposing party listed above or to their attorney of record. Failure to file a timely Answer in the time allowed can affect your right to object to the enforcement of the foreign judgment or order. Id., § 2.6c.</p> <p>The Trial Court is physically located at Wa Ehi Hocira, W9598 Highway 54 East, Black River Falls, (Jackson County) Wisconsin. The Trial Court's mailing address is P. O. Box 70, Black River Falls, WI 54615. The telephone number is (715) 284-2722, or toll free 800-434-4070, and the facsimile number is (715) 284-3136.</p>
--	---	--



# Ho-Chunk Nation provides donation to Baraboo schools

Ken Luchterhand  
Staff Writer

The Ho-Chunk Nation has made a \$10,000 donation to the athletic field improvements of Baraboo Middle and High School.

District 2 Representative John Holst presented the check to Aaron Andres, Baraboo middle and high school activities director, on Sept. 28. Also present were Jon Warner, Baraboo Soccer Club treasurer, and his wife, Stephanie, club registrar.

The donation, which was approved by the Legislature in July, will help with the second part of the track and field development, specifically used to build a new press box and stadium raised bleachers on the west side of the soccer and football field.

The second part of the improvements, termed Phase 2, is estimated to cost \$500,000 and this goal will be pursued strictly through fundraising and naming rights, Andres said.

Phase 2 includes a new stadium (bleachers) with storage underneath, a new 45' x 10' press box, a new concession/restroom building, and an updated sound system to encompass both stands.

The donation from the Ho-Chunk Nation will help to complete the school district's goals.

"The Nation became

involved through Jon's efforts," Andres said. "He approached the Legislature and requested help with the project."

The local soccer club has been instrumental in promoting the sport and developing athletes to compete not only with their own club matches, but also for middle and high school. The club has four competitive teams and six recreational teams. Currently, one of the competitive teams is ranks number two in the state.

"Our club develops the kids so these guys have great players," Warner said. The soccer club recently was able to lease five acres near the Baraboo Pow Wow grounds from the Ho-Chunk Nation to be used as practice grounds.

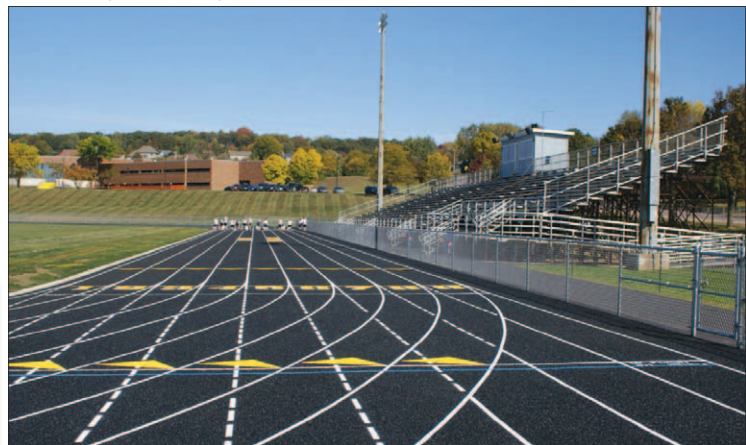
The Soccer Association has raised about 10 percent of the money needed for the renovations.

"As a tribe, we have a lot of our membership who have attended and graduated from the Baraboo public schools," Holst said.

The school district has agreed to provide \$800,000 toward Phase 1 of the project. It includes water and sewer to the west side of field, new re-crowned field with irrigation and drainage, new 9-lane track and painting, move the jumps out of the field, new ticket booth and entrance gate,



John Holst (left) presents a check for \$10,000 to Aaron Andres, middle and high school activities director, for the athletic field improvements. Also pictured are Jon and Stephanie Warner, officials with the Baraboo Soccer Club, who helped raise money for the project.



The track portion of the project has been completed, along with the east side bleachers. The press box will be used for visiting team announcers.



The west side of the football/soccer field still needs bleachers and a press box for home announcers. The field has been equipped with drain tile to correct the previous water drainage problem.

new scoreboard and sponsor panels, new donor recognition area, new security fencing and track fencing, and an updated sound system.

"We had a water drainage problem, so basically everything to the west of Draper Street is being

rebuilt," Andres said.

The soccer field doubles as a football field, with different dimensions for each. A soccer field is shorter and wider than a football field, so white lines designate the football field while red lines outline the soccer limits.

The field has been crowned for water drainage, plus drain tile buried throughout the perimeter.

"We are always happy to help the community where we reside," Holst said.

## Child care center to open

Submitted by  
DOI/AS-IA/OIEED/Division  
of Workforce Development

I am delighted to announce that DOI will soon open its new Child Care Center in the Stewart Lee Udall Main Interior Building. Construction of the new Child Care Center, developed through a joint partnership between DOI and GSA, is almost complete, and we expect to open the new center next month.

The new center will be located in the 1200 east wing of the building and will be able to accommodate 76 children -- from infants

to pre-kindergarten -- in a brand new facility. The Center features classrooms designated for each identified age group, as well as a multi-age classroom where children can interact with each other. Future plans for the center include an outdoor courtyard play area adjacent to the center, allowing children and staff convenient outdoor access. We hope to achieve LEED certification for the new center.

As a working parent, I am intimately aware that finding quality childcare can present a challenge for many families. Many of you may have taken

advantage of other child care centers offered by GSA throughout the metropolitan Washington area, and we are excited that our new center will be able to offer DOI employees child care right here at our headquarters. I believe that providing on-site, quality childcare is a positive investment in our employees and their well-being, and that having on-site child care helps us to compete for and retain the most talented staff. We look forward to welcoming more DOI parents and their children to this exciting new opportunity here at the Main Interior Building.

The Child Care Center provider, Bright Horizons, is a leader in providing employer-sponsored childcare, early education and work/life solutions. Bright Horizon childcare centers are designed to meet and exceed the standards of excellence set by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). We are delighted to partner with an organization that is so committed to providing innovative programs that help children, families and employers work together in an environment that is nurturing, supportive,

educational, and diverse. We will be working with Bright Horizons to enhance the current curriculum to include educational content related to the Department's rich history and mission.

*Kenneth A. LeMieux  
"Hoti'hu" Program  
Coordinator/ SAOTR DOI/  
AS-IA/OIEED/Division of  
Workforce Development  
1951 Constitution Ave, NW  
MS-20-SIB Washington, DC  
20245*

*Office # 202-513-7723  
Work Cell# 202-731-2928  
Fax# 202-208-4564*

# Ho-Chunk Nation president honored for focus on education

By Cassandra Colson of the Jackson County Chronicle

Ho-Chunk Nation President Jon Greendeer has been honored for his commitment to education.

Greendeer was named one of seven recipients of this year's Friends of Education awards from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

"I am pleased to honor such a dedicated group of citizens," said State Superintendent Tony Evers in a statement.

"Each day, formally and informally, they demonstrate what it means to be a Friend of Education by supporting the educational needs of students and young people in our state."

Greendeer, who was elected

Nation president in July 2011, is an active volunteer in the Black River Falls School District, and he gives tours of the Nation's facilities to students and educators.

He also speaks to secondary students about Native American issues, including sovereignty, government and politics.

"President Greendeer has helped to further a positive relationship between the Ho-Chunk Nation and our school district from his involvement in a variety of activities in the district as well as his accessibility and positive outlook," said Black River Falls School District Superintendent Ron Saari.

"President Greendeer has been a speaker at our staff in-service activities and has also

volunteered to lead cultural awareness sessions with our new staff over the past two years."

Greendeer was selected to deliver the State of the Tribes address earlier this year, where he told a joint session of the state Legislature that education is the cure for poverty and should be the right of all Wisconsin citizens. He also asked education be kept a priority in districts with high Native American populations.

Other 2012 Friends of Education award recipients this year included C.G. Bretting Manufacturing Company, Daniel Clancy of the Wisconsin Technical College System, Bill Berezowitz of GE Healthcare of Milwaukee, Dou Her of the YMCA, Oscar Mireles of Madison's Omega School and Greg and Raquel Strayer, who volunteer in the Bonduel schools.

Awards were presented Sept. 20 at the state Capitol.



Jon Greendeer was named one of seven recipients of this year's Friends of Education awards.

**Ho-Chunk Nation Youth  
All Area Social Dance**  
*Middle & High School Students*  
November 3rd from 2pm-6pm  
Goodman Community Center

(teen loft area)  
149 Waubesa St  
Madison, WI 53704



**DJ Door Prizes Food**



Question or concerns? Please contact:  
Madison Youth & Learning Center @ 608-242-1640

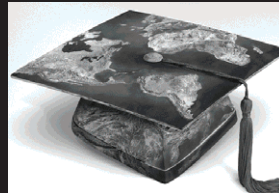


**WINTER COAT AND BLANKET DRIVE**  
PLEASE DONATE YOUR  
GENTLY USED COATS, BLANKETS, OUTWEAR TO THE  
CHEYENNE RIVER SIOUX TRIBE OF SOUTH DAKOTA  
ALL ITEMS WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED

DONATION BOXES AT THE HCN EXECUTIVE BUILDING AND

THE HOUSE OF WELLNESS thru mid month of NOVEMBER

PLEASE CONTACT LORINDA BIRD AT 715-299-4278 FOR PICK UP



**START AHEAD**  
WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION.

- Lowest UW tuition
- Transfer Guarantee
- Begin ANY major
- Student housing option
- Financial aid available

Visit, explore, find out more at:

**Fall Preview**

**Wednesday,  
October 24  
10am-12 noon**

Reserve by October 18 for your free, no-obligation preview

online: [richland.uwc.edu](http://richland.uwc.edu)  
phone: (608) 647-6186, #3  
e-mail: [rlinfo@uwc.edu](mailto:rlinfo@uwc.edu)

**UW UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN**  
**Richland**  
A Campus of the University of Wisconsin Colleges



# Guitarist Marc La Mere strums his passion into his performances

Ken Luchterhand  
Staff Writer

Anyone watching Marc La Mere perform, playing guitar and singing, would say he's a natural – that he's been doing it all his life and loving it.

But that's not the case. As a youngster, he didn't want anything to do with a guitar – he didn't want to play guitar, although there were always guitars around the house.

"My mother played guitar. It wasn't cool," he said. "It just seemed like anything my parents did didn't seem cool."

That attitude sure has changed.

Marc now makes his living playing guitar, and singing, as part of his own band, "The Marc La Mere Trio," and has gained a reputation of an intense, highly-skilled musician and singer.

During his humble beginnings, his attitude toward guitars changed when he was 15 or 16 years old, when he attended a family gathering.

"My cousin Chris was playing the guitar and I tried to jam with him," he said. "Of course, I didn't do all that well."

In the days following that experience, Marc repeatedly practiced his fingering and trying to hit all the right chords.

"I said, 'I'm not going to let this thing beat me,'" he said. "Either me or this thing is going to win."

Marc spent the next two years learning the basic chords until, while he was in Phoenix, he heard Stevie Ray Vaughn play "Couldn't Stand the Weather" on a CD and fell in love with it. He tried his best, day after day, to play the tune.

"It took me a long time to solo over it," he said.

The struggle with hitting the right notes continued until, one day, he had an epiphany about the chords on the neck of the guitar.

"One day it just clicked," he said. "I suddenly realized that I could play the same chord structure anywhere on the neck. It suddenly clicked in my head. From that point forward, I started to get better."

Marc enjoyed the music of Jimmy Hendrix and Stevie Ray Vaughn and he played along with their melodies.

"I used it for soloing and could use it for jazz, creating counter melodies."

Marc practiced and played for another three years, playing for between eight and nine hours a day. He once read that Stevie Ray Vaughn practiced for 12 hours a day, but Marc couldn't keep that pace.

"I started getting really sore, like carpal tunnel," he said.

"I didn't want to destroy my tendons."

"My first paying gig was a funeral. They asked if I could play a few hymns during the funeral. I had never played in front of people but it was an honor to do that for the family of this person," he said. "As I was packing my gear up to leave, a woman came up to me on behalf of the family and gave me a check. I told her I didn't do this for money, and she said it had already been arranged that whoever would play the music was to be paid."

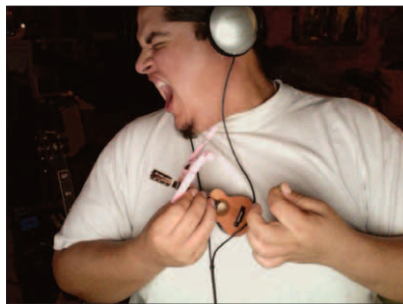
"That was the first and last time I ever accepted money for services like that," he said. "I have played at funerals since and the act of playing a funeral in and of itself is not something I enjoy, but music can be a comfort to the grieving and from that aspect it is an honor."

His interest in playing for an audience intensified and he began looking into forming a band. He located a drummer and a bass player and the group began playing at weddings, dances and other events.

Although the other musicians have changed over the years, Marc has been dedicated and a constant in the band. He plays both with the group and plays solo when requested, such as for a wedding ceremony last weekend. He plays electric guitar when with the group and acoustic when playing solo.

Through the years, the group has had a rotating trio of 10 to 20 guys who played drums and bass guitar.

Society is moving at a faster pace and it has had its effects on the band. The other band members have other events going on in their lives and they often live far from each other. For those reasons, it has become difficult for them to



get together to practice.

"Only one time I've had the guys live within 10 to 20 miles of each other," he said. "That's why we can never get together to practice."

Instead, Marc sends each player copies of the music they intend to play so that they can practice on their own.

Then, when they do get together for a performance, each musician plays the song a little differently, but it always works out – they work around their styles.



"When it's teetering on a cliff, possibly headed for disaster, that's the best part," he said. "Then you have to be concentrating on what you're doing."

His summers are busy now, playing gigs at least once a week, all from word-of-mouth.

"We haven't looked for a gig in two years," he said.

Marc is the lead singer and guitarist, and Andrew Mayes as bass guitarist and Brian Deberge as drummer.

The style of music they play is a mixture of funk and rhythm and blues, a combination of perhaps Bill Withers and Prince, he said. His favorite song to play is "If 6 was 9" by Jimi Hendrix, which has all the elements of "Voodoo Chile" and also the funk of Stevie Wonder's "Superstition."

Now that Marc has dedicated his life to making music, his lifetime passion, he sometimes wonders about the need for stability and a steady paycheck in his life.

"They funny part of it is that I think about it (the need for stability) when I'm performing," he said. "When I'm not performing, I don't even give it a thought."

Performing music is about 10 percent

inspiration and 90 percent perspiration, according to Marc.

"It's more of a mind game than anything," he said.

"Talent is a tenth of what it takes to perform. You can make the best notes, but if they don't care, it means nothing. Many musicians don't make it because they don't want to put the work into it."

If they put the work into it and "pound the pavement," they can make a couple hundred grand a year, he said.



Another difficulty with a music career is that taxes take a big bite out of earnings.

"It's tough to make it because the government looks on the money you earn as a gift, therefore they take about half of what you earn," Marc said.

A musician has to be dedicated to the profession because it can mean some long, tiring days. On the average, a performance takes about four hours, not including setup and breakdown of equipment. But there are days where the performances last all day, about eight hours, like the Christmas party at the Ho-Chunk Casino.

Marc doesn't have any aspirations to become rich and famous and become an international star.

"Fame is a relative term. If I can get shows by them knowing me and my music, then that's all the fame I need," he said.

Years ago, having a CD recorded was a goal by most performers. But today, when CDs can be privately produced, having a CD recorded is not a sign of success.

"If you start recording and cranking out the songs, it doesn't mean you're selling them," he said. "If most are given away, or if the songs are no good, people will soon tire of it."

The trend for the medium is more digital, such as offering music from a Web site or placing them on thumb drives, also known as flash drives.

A popular entertainment option is offering "secret shows," which means a band will perform at a bar unadvertised and unannounced, then offering their secondary songs, referred to as "B sides," for \$3 or \$4 on a CD or thumb drive.

And trying to get a contract with a major record label is not a realistic or practical goal, Marc said. First of all, there are only three major recording labels left in the country, plus there is no money in it.

Performers get a small percentage of sales and everything in promotion is taken out of that share. If they go on the road for performances, all costs such as gas, food, a booking agent, setup man, etc., is taken out of the performers' share.

Only profit from a road tour would come from sales of CDs and Tee shirts, he said, with CDs sold at a reduced rate of about \$10 instead of the usual \$15.

Instead of looking for ways to increase his fame, Marc plans to just keep playing. That, in itself, is enough for him.

"I'll play as long as I can – play and pay the bills," he said.



# Corey Rae White: The Evolution of an Entertainment Specialist

Marlon WhiteEagle  
Staff Writer

At age twelve, Corey Rae White received his first guitar. White is a Ho-Chunk tribal member and product of Sand Pillow community in Black River Falls, Wisconsin. Flashforward twenty years, White lives and breathes music as a musician in various bands, booking agent, and owner of a production company based in Saint Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota. With twenty years of experience, White refers to himself as an Entertainment Specialist.

Today, White keeps himself busy enough as a booking agent. He recently helped Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls break every house revenue record during the Happy Together Tour. When it comes to setting up and booking entertainment, White is the guy you should call. White said, "Everyone is a music expert. We all know what we like to listen to. The difference is I have twenty years of data to support me. I can walk into a venue, know how high a stage needs to be, know what kind of bands would do well there. I can stand on the stage and play various instruments, know where each cord needs to be plugged in, know where each cable goes. I can run the sound or lighting board. I can look at a contract and know what's realistic (in terms of pricing) and what items are unneeded."

In 1993, White graduated from the McNally Smith College of Music with a degree in Guitar Performance and

Music Business. After graduating, he worked for one year at Mille Lacs Grand Casino. He quickly learned that he wanted to pursue a career in music. White said, "I left the casino, returned to St. Paul, and almost immediately started the band Charlie's Café."

White enjoys his current surroundings. He said, "I live in the pulse of the Midwest music scene. There are more music venues here than in Los Angeles, and almost as many as Nashville. There are probably one thousand musicians in a one-mile radius." White credits himself as a "musicians' booking agent." He said, "Most of the booking agents out there are only out for top earnings. They don't care about the musicians, but they care about how much money can be made. I have to sell people to venues. So I



White on stage playing guitar.

don't forget to treat them like people. My problem is I want to help everyone I can, and I don't have that much time."

White recently picked up management duties of the native comedians that performed

at Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls over the Labor Day holiday.

White keeps his musical chops sharp by performing with his bands: JUG, Unbroken, Shalo Lee Band, and Indian Outlaw. White pointed out that Indian Outlaw features three native singers, two males and one female. He also pointed out that his bands are all country bands. He said, "I'm too old to rock now, so I stick with what keeps me young."

White remembers growing up in Sand Pillow. He said, "I grew up just like everyone else, facing the same issues. I used to babysit my younger siblings, and when I did that I'd be practicing the guitar down in the basement. I also remember the dark skin kids calling me Corey White man. I used to fancy dance and placed at powwows. I went to language classes. But I didn't seem to fit in with the natives. And because I was part native, I didn't fit in with the white kids. Music allowed me to find a place where I fit in. When I moved away to school, I walked into the classroom and saw people that looked like me. I didn't see a Black, White, Mexican, or Asian; I saw people who could jam on whatever musical instrument. Today, people call me Chief and it doesn't even bother me. Everyone knows me as that Indian guy."

From 2005 to 2010, White went to work for his alma mater, McNally Smith College of Music, as an Admissions Counselor. He travelled around the country to recruit prospective students. White



Corey Rae White in downtown St. Paul.

also organized events like battle of the bands competitions, regional and national concert events and festivals, and career and college fairs. White said, "I was constantly going somewhere and doing something. It was a demanding job, but an enjoyable job. I did so much travelling. It was a great opportunity."

White has not only shared the stage with the likes of Train, Lady Antebellum, Kelly Pickler, Presidents of the United States, Semisonic, and Indigenous, but he's also won numerous musical awards. He was once nominated as guitar player of the year by the Minnesota Music Association. He was the winner of best country song and mainstream song by Native E-

Music. He has been heard on a national commercial for the USDA Urban Development & Indian Trust Settlement. His music can be heard on UPN, MTV, WB, Lifetime Cable Networks, and NBC's KARE 11 television spots.

White wants to lend his expertise to the Ho-Chunk Nation. He said, "This is how I can help the Ho-Chunk Nation. I can help save money in the area of music and entertainment. I could help with a music lessons to Ho-Chunk youth. It would be nice to see a tribal school with musical offerings. We could teach kids how to play their favorite tunes, like School of Rock, and perform before their family and friends."

## Joe and Irene Keenan Jr. are lifelong musicians

Sherman Funmaker  
Interim Editor

We all love music. That's a given. It moves us. It takes us places, in our minds and in our hearts. It has the ability to make and bring back memories... and to some, it is their life. It seems like that is all they know and all they want to know. In a recent conversation with this young lady and her brother, who both have been involved in and around music for most of their lives, that was never more evident.

Irene Keenan Jr. probably had no choice in what she was

to become. A family that was steeped in music was bound to produce musicians and artists. And it has. Her mother is Irene Lowe Keenan, a musician herself and daughter of Martin Lyons Lowe. In his younger days Martin Lowe, a talented pianist, was accepted to Julliard School of Music only to be denied entry when they discovered he was Native American, according to stories she was told as a kid.

All this started back when Irene's mother met her husband while both were in the service. Mother Irene played

trumpet mostly marching bands and her family lugged around a piano and according to stories, was constantly asked to sell it, but there were plans for the piano. The father hoped someone, someday, would learn to play it. Irene said that her father was not really a musician, but a great whistler, she laughed. She explains that he did occasionally pluck out a few notes and melodies on the dragged-around piano.

Irene said that her folks moved the kids around and they eventually made their way back to Wisconsin where she was raised in the Mission till she was about twelve. Her mother worked for the Nation and while working as a youth worker she received a donation of about ten guitars from a music store in La Crosse. Some were beaten up and not playable and one of those guitars finally made its way to the family home and helped start these musician's journeys.

Her older brother Joe has been a musician for years and in fact Irene first started as a singer in her brother's band around the age of nineteen or



Irene Keenan Jr, artist and performer.

so. Influenced by Elvis Presley's music and dance while watching TV young Irene knew then and there that was what she wanted to do.

"I was so excited to see Elvis on TV and couldn't sit down while he performed" she remembers. She knew then the life path she wanted to follow.

While singing in her brother's band at the age of 19, she

was given a guitar as a prop so she didn't look like just a tambourine playing girl in the band, she ended up practicing the guitar and finally turned it up, tuned it up and to the rest of the bands surprise, started playing along with the guys. That's how she learned to play guitar. She explains her brother Joe would sit down and show her chords and soon

*Continued on Page 16*



Irene on stage performing.

# Joe Keenan guitar man

Sherman Funmaker, Interim Editor

Joe picked up his first guitar at the age of ten. His sister says he did because he wanted to meet girls. He may not remember it that way. Whatever drove him to pick up and learn the instrument; he has it pretty much down now.

The oldest brother of this family has another member of this musical and talented family. Brother Chris is talented artist in his own right. According to his siblings, Chris also has musical talent as a singer and harmonica player but for now has found his way as a gifted jewelry designer and maker.

"You couldn't get him on stage for anything," said Joe.

Joe started this journey as a clarinet and recorder player when he was ten or so and eventually moved to saxophone. He said when his horn was stolen and he was around a guitar the family was storing for a friend, he soon picked it up and he was off and running. "I couldn't stay away from that thing" he said.

Growing up he remembers his cousin moved to town and ended up staying with the family. He had a drum set and the next thing you know there was noise in the basement and a band was formed. He remembers his dad was in the service and seemed to always come home with big stereos so the family always had some sort of music playing while he was growing up, mostly a mix of Etta James, Johnny Mathis, Frankie Laine and those old classic singers.

Classic music was a part of their lives. He remembers his grandfather was a talented pianist but leaned more towards church music, he recalls.

Joe and his sister played together for a while but creatively differed in taste and eventually went their separate ways but occasionally they will get together and play.

Joe feels he could have left Wisconsin to pursue his music career but he felt a need to stick around here and continue his journey being around family. "I wanted to play with my cousins and stick close to Ho-Chunk lands and people."

Tell us about your first band.

My first band was with my cousin, Algie Wolters on drums and Brian Rave played bass. This band started in Black River Falls and we played through high school. Duncan Rave's basement was where we played and practiced. While we practiced, Duncan was upstairs watching Lawrence Welk. He was very patient and forgiving of us, we would have little concerts down there for a few of the other cousins and every once in a while one of them would jump in and play a little bit. It kept us from stealing cars and other mischievous things teenagers do.

Who wrote the songs?

We all pitched in. It was all a group effort; we all worked together as a group. One guy would write one part and another guy would say we may need to change the lyrics here or there. Now I don't do much original work. I was trying to put together something but that has been stalled for the time being.

What are your musical goals?

I don't know why it appeals to me but I would like to play on Saturday Night Live. I don't really have any other desires to play on Leno or Letterman. That's all I want, then I'll

quit. (laughs)

What do you think of today's music?

I think it's getting more and more processed. I see a lot of musicians going back to the old instruments and things like that and I like that. For a while there everything was hip-hop and rap and to me that is old, even Satchmo made a recording that was rap back in the 30's. I wasn't surprised when rap started taking over because I knew it was a popular thing in the big cities. People like that because it was unmelodic and it was un-everything, anti-establishment that was big in the hard-core inner city.

What do you like to listen to today?

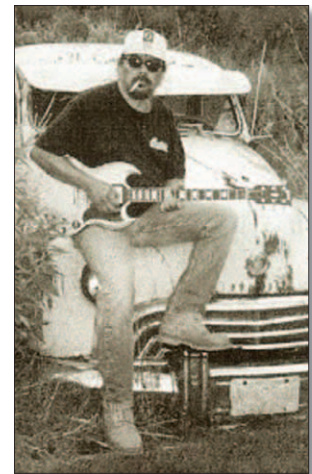
I get things stuck in my head by Sheryl Crow. I always have a girl singer in the band. My sister had a lot of influence on me for that. I get songs by the Stones stuck in my head, songs by all kinds of different people. I listen to a lot of stuff. I've been listening to a lot of the Decemberists lately. I like melodies.

Are there any Native performers you would like to play with?

James Luna is a performance artist and he is funny and an ordinary type of guy. He does some pieces that involve music. I think I would like to work with him.

What about your band you have today.

My band has been together for about 4 yrs now. We are called 7 Ravens. We have a girl singer. We had a contract over at Ho-Chunk and that was nice. We got to spend time together and it was a great gig. It's all cover tunes we don't try to write too much. It's just a bunch of people that get along. I found that years of working



Joe Keenan guitarist and performer.

trying to get this drummer or this bass player because they are so hot and wonderful didn't work out because they are all about their pride situation and it becomes competitive with the other musicians in the band. Sometimes that leads to hard feelings. This time I just got people that got along. We are just trying to have fun.

What is coming up for 7 Ravens?

We are playing up in Black River Falls at Sunset Tavern on October 13th. We have some gigs booked here in the LaCrosse area in November and January.

Joe received his Bachelors Degree in Art from UW LaCrosse in 2009.

## Tribal Courts host Fall Social Gathering to honor sobriety

Marlon WhiteEagle  
Staff Writer

On October 4, 2012, the Ho-Chunk Nation Tribal Courts hosted a Fall Social Gathering to honor Sobriety. The social gathering was planned to be held at the Indian Mission powwow grounds. It was moved to the District 1 Community Center due to the weather. This was the second social gathering hosted by the Ho-Chunk Nation Judiciary.

The gathering was held in conjunction with the Judiciary's annual Law Day, which is

a community education effort for the Ho-Chunk Nation and the general public. Law Day serves as continuing legal education for the Ho-Chunk Nation Bar Association and other legal professionals. Law Day is also held concurrently with the annual meeting with the Wisconsin Tribal Judges Association.

Law Day started with introductions by Chief Judge of the Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court, Jo Deen Lowe, and Associate Judge, Amanda Rockman. The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Justice's Attorney Rebecca Maki presented Protecting Tribal Youth: the Wisconsin Indian Child Welfare Act. The trial court judges and the staff attorneys, John Kellis and Samuel Crowfoot presented Logic and Legal Writing: Crafting Effective Briefs and Opinions.

Next, participants made

their way to the District 1 Community Center for a potluck dinner and the Social Gathering. Lance Long served as emcee for the social gathering. Raining Thunder was the host drum, while Little Thunder, Blackdeer, Wazijaci, Bear Claw Jr., and the Local Boys were invited drums. Lance Long offered the invocation.

After a round of intertribal singing and dancing, there was an honor song sung for participants of the Ho-Chunk Nation's Healing to Wellness Court. The Healing to Wellness Court is a program for alcohol and drug treatment instead of a jail/prison sentence. The Jackson County Drug Court participants were also honored on this occasion. Those Wisconsin Tribal Judges Association members that were present were honored with a special song and dance.

A few more rounds of intertribal songs were sung. There was also a round of round dances sung followed by a couple special dances. There was a Potato Dance, which was won by Dana Houghton and Debreana Pettibone. There was also a Feather Dance, where a feather/dollar was placed on the ground/floor standing up and the dancer was to try to pick it up with their teeth to be awarded a dollar. The dance was a test of skill and balance.



Damon Scott and Jayden Collins dancing during an intertribal.



Round Dancing at the Social Gathering.



Jayden Collins and Asia Rave Potatoes dancing.



Dana Houghton (left) and Debreana Pettibone won the Potato Dance.



HO-CHUNK NATION  
LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR MEETING  
MADISON BRANCH OFFICE -  
MADISON, WI

AUGUST 22, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: President Jon Greendeer called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

President Jon Greendeer(P)  
Vice President Greg  
Blackdeer(EX)

Rep. Susan Weber(P)  
Rep. Douglas Greengrass(EX)  
Rep. Andrea Estebo(EX)  
Rep. James Greendeer(P)  
Rep. John Holst(10:21)  
Rep. Hope Smith(EX)

Rep. Heather Cloud(P)  
Rep. Shelby Visintin(P)  
Rep. Greg Littlejohn(P)  
Rep. Forrest Whiteabbitt(P)  
Rep. Robert Two Bears(P)  
Rep. Patrick Red Eagle(10:04)

DETERMINATION OF

QUORUM: Quorum is

established.

OPENING PRAYER: Rep. James Greendeer asked for a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION by Rep. Greg Littlejohn to approve agenda as amended to add item g. Trial Court Judge and item h. Class III Internal Control Manual under Unfinished Business; add item f. IGaming under New Business. Second by Rep. Heather Cloud. 7-0-0 Motion Carried.

Rep. Patrick Red Eagle arrives at 10:04 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to ratify the August 7, 2012 Legislature Meeting minutes with corrections on page 9, ninth motion should say two instead of four. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. 6-0-2(Reps. Littlejohn, Red Eagle) Motion Carried.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration Committee: MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to ratify the August 9, 2012 Administration Committee Meeting minutes as presented. Second by Rep. Forrest Whiteabbitt. 5-1(Rep. Two Bears)-1(Rep. Littlejohn) Motion Carried. (Rep. Red Eagle out of the room).

Rep. John Holst arrives at 10:21 a.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Cho Wa Re Ja Museum & Archives, Inc. Lease: MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to adopt Ho-Chunk Nation resolution 08-22-12A Cancellation of Ho-Chunk Nation Land Lease #1914 on Decorah Cemetery Expansion Property. Second by Rep. Forrest Whiteabbitt. 8-0-1(Rep. Holst) Motion Carried.

Sewer Use Ordinance: This resolution is that the Legislature establishes the following rates pursuant to the Sewage and Waste Water Use Ordinance: Enterprise volume charges of \$11.39 per 1000 gallons and a fee of \$25.00 per month for Residential Users and Small Facilities, subject to future changes approved by the Legislature.

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to adopt Ho-Chunk Nation resolution 08-22-12B Sewer and Waste Water Use Ordinance. Second by Rep. Robert Two Bears. 7-0-2(Reps. Cloud, Littlejohn) Motion Carried.

Dept. of Business Board of Directors Qualifications & Criteria: Rep. Heather Cloud stated she just wanted to know what the Executive Branch was looking for in this Board. There was a hand out from the Department of Business for review by the Legislature. There was discussion of having a meeting with Department of Business so that the Legislature can express what they would like to see for qualifications and criteria.

Appropriation & Budget Act: MOTION by Rep. Robert Two Bears to table the Appropriation & Budget Act agenda item and have a meeting next Friday, September 7, 2012. Second by Rep. John Holst. 8-0-1(Rep. Cloud) Motion Carried.

Code of Ethics Act - Financial

Disclosure:

MOTION by Rep. Robert Two Bears to table the Code of Ethics Act - Financial Disclosure agenda item. Second by Rep. James Greendeer. 7-0-2(Reps. Holst, Cloud) Motion Carried.

Lynwood:

Rep. Greg Littlejohn gave a brief update regarding the discussion with Pastor Munsey. Michael Murphy distributed a Lynwood update and reviewed the material with the Legislature. Vice President Greg Blackdeer's report on his Lynwood Visit of August 13-14, 2012 was distributed to the Legislature for review.

Trial Court Judge: MOTION by Rep. Greg Littlejohn to adopt Ho-Chunk Nation resolution 08-22-12C Confirmation of Appointment of Amanda Rockman as Associate Judge of the Ho-Chunk Nation Trial Court. Second by Rep. Forrest Whiteabbitt. 8-1-0 by ballot. Motion Carried.

Class III Internal Control Manual: This resolution is addressing an amendment to Section 200.01 Accounting Standards. F. Current language would be struck and replaced with new wording, "For non-leased wide-area progressive (WAP) arrangements, gaming entities should report fees paid to the owner-seller pursuant to a WAP arrangement as contra revenue, consistent with the gaming entities' treatment of jackpots paid and payments for jackpot insurance." MOTION by Rep. Heather Cloud to adopt Ho-Chunk Nation resolution 08-22-12D Quick Passage Amendment to the Ho-Chunk Nation Class III Internal Controls Manual. Second by Rep. Greg Littlejohn. 9-0-0 Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

Suitability Waivers:

MOTION by Rep. Heather Cloud to table all the suitability waivers resolutions for more detailed information. Second by Rep. Greg Littlejohn. 7-2(Reps. Two Bears, Greendeer)-0 Motion Carried.

Smithsonian Institution National Museum of the American Indian Inaugural Ball Contribution: MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to allocate \$10,000.00 from the Charitable Contribution line item as a Turquoise Sponsor of the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of the American Indian Inaugural Ball. Second by Rep. Forrest Whiteabbitt. 8-0-0 Motion Carried. (Rep. Visintin out of the room).

Separation of Business & Government: MOTION by Rep. Heather Cloud for Legislature to have an informational booth at General Council to provide information to tribal members about Separation of Business and Government and to gather suggestion from the membership for a name for the Chapter 17 Corporation. Second by Rep. Patrick Red Eagle. 7-1(Rep. Weber)-1(Rep. Two Bears) Motion Carried.

District Concerns: READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. Susan Weber read the District 1 Area Meeting motion to have the 2013 Labor Day Pow-wow, and all subsequent pow-wows, planned and regulated by a newly established pow-wow committee. READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. Susan Weber read the District 1 Area Meeting motion to have the 2013 Labor Day Pow-wow, and all subsequent pow-wows, planned and regulated by a newly established pow-wow committee that includes a member of the Office of the President/Executive Branch, who will ensure the pow-wows are planned and reconciled accordingly.

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to refer to Legislative Counsel the District 1 Area Meeting motion to have a policy drafted to establish a uniformed and consistent law regarding banning individuals whom are registered sex offenders from entering all tribal facilities. Second by Rep. John Holst. 9-0-0 Motion Carried.

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to refer to the Office of the President

the District 1 Area Meeting motion to ban pit bull dogs in the Mission and Sand Pillow. Second by Rep. John Holst. 9-0-0 Motion Carried.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. John Holst read the District 2 Baraboo Area Meeting motion that Area 2 (Baraboo) is in support of General Council Agency and to have legal representation.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. John Holst read the District 2 Tomah Area Meeting motion to nominate Melody White Eagle Fintak as the General Council Agency Board Alternate.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. John Holst read the District 2 Tomah Area Meeting motion to close nominations for the General Council Agency Board vacancy.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. John Holst read the District 2 Tomah Area Meeting motion to nominate Carly Greendeer to the Education Board of Directors.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. John Holst read the District 2 Tomah Area Meeting motion to accept Roberta Decorah to the Ethics Review Board.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. John Holst read the District 2 Tomah Area Meeting motion to close nomination to the Veterans Advisory Board.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. John Holst read the District 2 Tomah Area Meeting motion to accept Richard Mann to the Veterans Advisory Board.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. John Holst read the District 2 Tomah Area Meeting motion to accept Randall Mann to the Veterans Advisory Board as the Alternate.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. John Holst read the District 2 Tomah Area Meeting motion to accept Sandra Winneshiek to the Housing Board.

MOTION by Rep. John Holst to refer to the Office of the President the District 2 Tomah Area Meeting motion to support the effort to establish a carpool van from Tomah to Black River Falls Tribal Office Building. Second by Rep. James Greendeer. 7-2(Reps. Two Bears, Weber)-0 Motion Carried.

Rep. James Greendeer read the District 2 Madison Area Meeting motion for the Legislature to provide a \$5,000.00 donation to the Warner Park Youth Football Program, and the donation is to be completed by September 1, 2012.

MOTION by Rep. James Greendeer to allocate \$5,000.00 from the Youth Assistance line item to the vendor on an expedited basis due to time frame. Second by Rep. John Holst. 7-2(Reps. Weber, Two Bears)-0 Motion Carried.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. James Greendeer read the District 2 Madison Area Meeting motion to take \$2,000.00 from the Madison Community Foundation Endowment Fund for the Madison Area Ho-Chunk members and assign to the Warner Park Youth Football Program.

MOTION by Rep. James Greendeer to refer to the Finance Committee the District 2 Madison Area Meeting motion to have General Council Agency Alternates get paid a stipend and mileage to attend four quarterly trainings and General Council. Second by Rep. Robert Two Bears. Second is withdrawn. Second by Rep. John Holst. 3-6(Reps. Two Bears, Cloud, Visintin, Weber, Red Eagle, Whiteabbitt)-0 Motion Defeated.

MOTION by Rep. James Greendeer to refer to the Finance Committee the District 2 Madison Area Meeting motion for Legislature to amend the Finance Manual Stipend Policy to include all established committees so that the delegates and alternates get paid for attendance at all required

meetings. Second by Rep. John Holst. 4-2(Reps. Weber, Red Eagle)-3(Reps. Visintin, Two Bears, Cloud) Motion Carried.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. James Greendeer read the District 2 Madison Area Meeting motion to ensure Separation of Powers and to prevent conflict of interest the Legislature needs to adhere to Resolution 09-17-05B Ho-Chunk General Council Branch Policy, Function & Organization and resolution 09-13-08-6 which gives General Council Agency Power of Attorney and authority of selection of attorney.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. James Greendeer read the District 2 Madison Area Meeting motion to nominate Anne Thundercloud to the Housing Board.

MOTION by Rep. James Greendeer to refer to the Finance Committee the District 2 Madison Area Meeting motion to send the list of applicants for families for membership to the YMCA to the Legislature for payment approval at the next Legislative Meeting on August 22, 2012 in Madison, WI.

Second by Rep. John Holst. 9-0-0 Motion Carried.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. Heather Cloud read the District 3 Wittenberg Area Meeting motion to have Nicole come back in person to resign from the Law Enforcement Commission.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. Heather Cloud read the discussion from the Wittenberg Area Meeting minutes that Marvin Decorah stated he will provide to Rep. Heather Cloud all the General Council Agency Meeting minutes including Executive Session and he will be stepping down from his position on the General Council Agency after this General Council.

Rep. Heather Cloud read the District 3 Wittenberg Area Meeting motion that all General Council Agency meeting minutes and reports will be available upon asking for them during work hours and by next month area meeting all General Council Agency meeting minutes and reports should be disclosed by the next area meeting.

The executive session meeting minutes must be disclosed only to the Legislators.

MOTION by Rep. Heather Cloud for Legislature to have access to and are requesting all General Council Agency minutes, including Executive Session minutes, to be provided by close of business Thursday, August 23, 2012 on an emergency expedited basis as a denial to this was received from the Office of General Council on July 26, 2012 and at the Wisconsin Dells Area Meeting on August 16, 2012.

Second by Rep. James Greendeer. 8-0-1(Rep. Two Bears) Motion Carried.

FOR THE RECORD: An e-mail response to Pine denial letter sent on July 26, 2012 to clarify request and received a verbal denial of minutes at the Indian Heights Meeting. Also, Pine informed the people that any request for open session meeting minutes must get board approval.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. Heather Cloud read the District 3 Green Bay Area Meeting motion to postpone the Youth Grant until next month's area meeting.

The District 3 Wisconsin Rapids Area Meeting minutes were disbursed to the Legislature, but no action was needed.

MOTION by Rep. Heather Cloud to refer to the Finance Committee the District 3 Wisconsin Dells Area Meeting motion to provide funds for Patty Ennis to see her sister in Mayetta, KS. Second by Rep. John Holst. 9-0-0 Motion Carried.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. Shelby Visintin read the District 4 Area Meeting motion that the Legislature accept the vendor, deny Paul Stenzel General Council Agency Attorney and get John Swimmer back.

READ FOR THE RECORD: Rep. Shelby Visintin read the District 4 Area Meeting motion to deal with the Housing issue at next month's meeting.

MOTION by Rep. Greg Littlejohn to refer to the Office of the

President the District 5 Chicago Area Meeting motion to forward the community chosen location for the new Chicago Branch location to Office of the President. Chicago requests that the proper steps be taken to purchase this property as soon as possible. The address is 4738 North Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL 60630 with a MLS number of 08107101. Second by Rep. Robert Two Bears. 9-0-0 Motion Carried.

Rep. Greg Littlejohn read the District 5 Chicago Area Meeting motion to request that the Legislature donate \$15,000.00 to the American Indian Center, located in Chicago, for their upcoming pow-wow. This organization has had many, many past years of involvement with the late Ho-Chunk member Angie Decorah. Angie Decorah has been a big part of the Chicago community and we request that the Legislature adopt a resolution to become a "Bear" sponsor in her name to dedicate her service to the Chicago community and the Ho-Chunk Nation.

MOTION by Rep. Greg Littlejohn to allocate \$15,000.00 from the Charitable Contribution line item as a Bear Sponsor for the American Indian Center Pow-wow on an expedited basis due to the time frame. Second by Rep. Robert Two Bears. 7-0-2(Reps. Weber, Visintin) Motion Carried.

The District 5 Minneapolis/St. Paul Area Meeting minutes were disbursed to the Legislature, but no action was needed.

Travel Approvals: MOTION by Rep. Greg Littlejohn to approve up to two Legislators to attend the 2012 Travois Conference on September 10-13, 2012 in Tucson, Arizona. Second by Rep. John Holst. 8-0-1 (Rep. Cloud) Motion Carried.

Internet Gaming: Rep. Greg Littlejohn gave a verbal report on the Internet Gaming Conference he attended in Prior Lake, Minnesota.

MOTION by Rep. Greg Littlejohn to have Legislative Counsel draft language for our Gaming Ordinance regarding Internet Gaming. Second by Rep. Heather Cloud. 9-0-0 Motion Carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: MOTION by Rep. Shelby Visintin to go into Executive Session. Second by Rep. James Greendeer. 9-0-0 Motion Carried. The meeting went into Executive Session at 11:54 a.m.

MOTION by Rep. Greg Littlejohn to return to Open Session. Second by Rep. Patrick Red Eagle. 8-0-0 Motion Carried. (Rep. Greendeer out of the room). The meeting returned to Open Session at 1:38 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Robert Two Bears to ratify action taken in Executive Session. Second by Rep. John Holst. 9-0-0 Motion Carried.

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to adopt Ho-Chunk Nation resolution 08-22-12F Confirmation of Tina Boisen as District 1 Ethics Review Board Member. Second by Rep. John Holst. 9-0-0 Motion Carried.

NOTE: Rep. Greg Littlejohn pointed out a concern on the disclaimer on the State and Federal background checks and that these backgrounds are not conclusive.

MOTION by Rep. John Holst to draft a rescinding resolution for resolution 08-07-12R Denial of Appointment of Becky Albert as Trust and Investment Committee Member. Second by Rep. James Greendeer. 7-2(Reps. Weber, Two Bears)-0 Motion Carried.

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Rep. Greg Littlejohn to adjourn the meeting. Second by Rep. John Holst. 9-0-0 Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

NOTE: The last Legislative Meeting there was a motion to have the first September Legislative Meeting on September 6, 2012 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Respectfully submitted,

Hope B. Smith, Tribal Secretary  
Vicki Shisler, Recording Secretary

# Wittenberg group makes effort to recognize, deter suicide in community

Ken Luchterhand  
Staff Writer

Suicide is a subject most people don't want to think about, let alone talk about. That is why approaching the subject can be, and has been, rather touchy.

The staff at the Wittenberg Youth Center recognized suicide as a subject that needs addressing, and set their sights on bringing the subject out into the open. Community members have been encouraged to join in the process, to gain knowledge, to recognize the signs of suicide and to do whatever they can to prevent such catastrophes from occurring.

October is Suicide Prevention Month, so the youth and staff are making an extra effort to get out the word this month about the subject.

The Wittenberg Youth Center staff began their current suicide prevention project in March 2011. It started when the Youth Services supervisor told all youth centers they needed to develop a community action plan for suicide prevention.

"The process for us began with the youth, and what they felt was important and unheard. My first role in my internship was to help them how ever I could, mostly through research and making connections to outside resources," said Rachael Dozer, who was interning at the center to work toward a social work degree. She now is employed at the center as a youth coordinator.

"I knew I wanted to pursue a degree in Native American social work, but it wasn't until

my work with the youth and being a part of their discussions did I decide that I wanted to go to graduate school for mental health. That was one thing the youth kept saying there was a need for, more mental health professionals that they find approachable and available," she said.

To begin the process of creating a suicide prevention project, Dozer attempted to compile as much information as she could about the subject. "There wasn't any hard data for our community. I found some for the Menominee Nation, for the Navajo and the Sioux," she said. "It's hard to do research in this area."

A couple months ago their effort was approved for a grant by the Healthy Wisconsin Leadership Institute. The idea is to build a healthy, productive coalition team with our young people and the Wittenberg-Biramwood High School. The Ho-Chunk Youth Council had a big part in defining what would be important to the coalition, and where the priorities should lie.

During the process, the team would hear stories from youth concerning other youth who have attempted suicide or were contemplating suicide. The team would define what information and education is needed and Rachael would find the information on it.

Then, the discussion was what resources are available and what was needed. The team presented their thought on the subject in front of the high school faculty.

"Anyone you talk to about suicide, it is a touchy subject," Dozer said. "It's never just

about the suicide – it's also what led up to it. People don't like talking about it because it exposes emotional wounds. People contemplating suicide often feel such strong, often negative feelings, that they either don't know who to go to, or often times they feel they are alone in their pain."

To address the problems leading up to suicide, they look into subjects such as drugs, alcohol, bullying and mental health. One of the things that they discussed was the importance of teaching and encouraging empathic language and behaviors as early as possible as a way to combat bullying behaviors. They need to learn to talk nice to each other and how to develop empathy for other people, she said.

"It's (mental health) kind of like a Rubik's cube. Each side has a different look and each has different facets," said Lanette Walker, Wittenberg Youth Center director. "No one is ever prepared for it. We are continuously trying to educate ourselves. If we don't educate ourselves, how to do this together – what good are we?"

Part of the problem is that there is a lack of mental health services in rural areas, especially in the Native American community, Dozer said.

That's where Sylvia Walker, current president of the Pac Haci Youth Council and Skyler Bourdon, current vice president, formulated a way to raise public awareness and obtain the needed data. Bourdon was president and Isaiah Vargas was the vice president at the time of the marathon.

After doing some research, they decided they could do both by bringing a team of runners to the Fox Valley Marathon on Sept. 18, 2011. The relay team included youth from the center, Erica WhiteEagle, Danee Walker, Lorenzo and Isaiah Vargas and Barbara Kmetz, also Ho-Chunk President Jon Greendeer, and a special guest runner, Dirk Whitebreast.

When they began the planning of creating a team the previous March, contact was made with Whitebreast, who wanted to help their cause.

"Whitebreast was running for his sister who had committed suicide," said Lucy Vargas, Home School coordinator. "It



**Marathon runners in the Wittenberg Area Ho-Chunk Nation Suicide Prevention Teams are (top row, from left) Isaiah Vargas, Danee Walker, Jon Greendeer, Dirk Whitebreast, Lorenzo Vargas, Katie Funmaker, (bottom row) John Dozer, Barbara Kmetz, Josie Raphaelito (with the Center for Native American Youth-Aspen Center), Georgianna Lonetree and Erica WhiteEagle.**

was part of Whitebreast's plan to run 10 marathons in 10 days, which he eventually did complete."

The Ho-Chunk group was in support of Whitebreast and he was in support of the message the Ho-Chunk group was trying to get across.

The marathon was held in the morning, followed by a meal where all of the youth centers were invited to hear about what was going on and gather resources to take home with them. There were five adults, community members or staff, and five youth participating in the marathon. Bright yellow shirts were obtained for the marathon team, plus Nike running shoes donated by the Nike Company.

"Everyone along the way had stories about suicide," Walker said. "Everyone is touched by suicide in one way or another."

Posters were made for each individual runner, with his or her name printed on it, which were held at each of the checkpoints along the way.

When each of runners crossed the finish line, they looked for Whitebreast. Noticing his absence, John, Erica and Danee headed back along the route to find him. He was found about three or four miles back in an exhausted condition. The three supporters helped Whitebreast along the route to the finish line. (these youth ended up running about eight and a half miles. It was moving to see they join us, and then turn back, even though they were tired, to show Dirk that he had their support)

One of the guys at the marathon heard about their cause and allowed them to use one of his songs about suicide on his CD because his uncle had committed suicide. Other people who shared similar stories offered donations to their cause.

"The message we kept getting was 'Thank You,'" she said.

When the announcers at

the marathon made mention of their team and the cause, everyone applauded, she said.

"Every time, people who wanted to be a part of our efforts were in our path," she said. "There were people present every inch of the way, who had been touched by suicide in some manner."

Now, the group is focusing on developing an "action plan" with an emphasis on prevention. They hope to get the language of the plan established and to make a calendar geared toward prevention activities.

It's difficult to know who might be at risk, so the message is provided to everyone.

"A lot of kids have a hole in them – in their being," Walker said. "Anything could lead to suicide. That is why we promote that they have a place here."

Sometimes the youth are lost because they have a lack of identity, Walker said. At the center, they attempt to fill that hole by recapturing their roots and promote the methods of their ancestors. They are promoting more culture and language and family activities.

"I think it affects everyone. I learned a lot," Sylvia Walker said. "We came a long way from a couple of years ago."

As a result of their efforts, youth aren't as afraid to talk about suicide or to share their feelings, she said.

"They're good talking about how they're feeling – not keeping it bottled up because no one is listening," Sylvia said. "Often they're afraid someone might laugh or make fun of them because of their feelings."

Young people are the driving force for this.

"Hard feelings are more common in teens because they like to judge each other," Bourdon said. "They don't know what it's like to be 'that' person because everyone's different. Everyone has a different background, a different religion or upbringing."

**Ho-Chunk Nation**  
**Domestic Violence Program**

## Walk for Awareness

**October is**  
**Domestic Violence**  
**Awareness Month**

**Date: Monday, October 15, 2012**  
**Location: House Of Wellness**  
**Time: 10:00 am— 3:00pm**  
**(Walk anytime during this time)**  
**Register At Booths**

**All who participate in this event will get a T-Shirt after they walk. (While supplies last)**

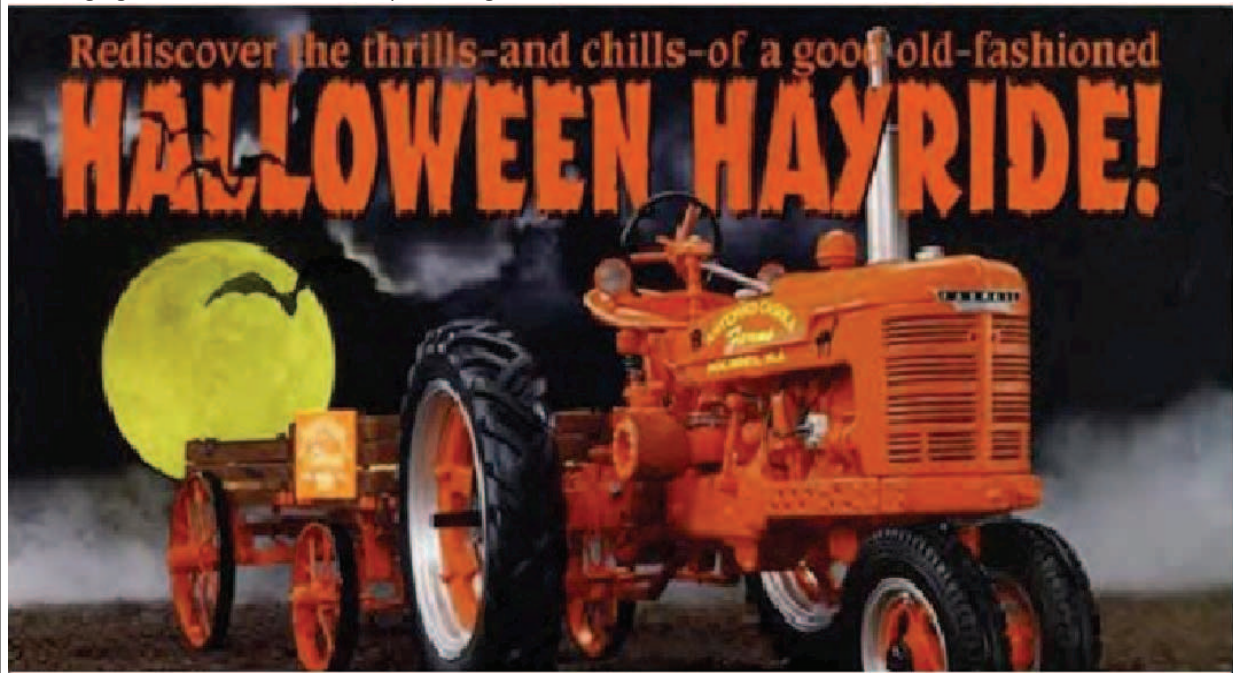
**There is NO FEE to participate in this event however, free donations will be accepted.**

**All proceeds will benefit the Ho-Chunk Nation's SAFE House.**

Show your support for victims of domestic violence & join us for this beautiful walk! For questions, please contact Mary James, Domestic Violence Program Manager at (715) 284-2622 extension 5101.



Tribal Aging Unit of Black River Falls Sponsoring:



October 26th Less Scary starts from 6:00-7:30pm & More Scary Starts from 7:30-Midnight.

Ticket Prices- Adults- \$8.00 Children 12 and under- \$6.00

All Volunteers, please contact Toni or Shelly at (715)-284-0811

Located on State Hwy 54 in Black River Falls at the Andrew Black Hawk Memorial Pow-wow grounds.

# CRANE FINANCE

**Money when YOU need it most!**

**Call Today 715-848-2100**

- Fast Approvals • Payment Options Available
- Apply In Person Or Call Ahead • Loans Starting at \$75

**Crane Finance, 2108 Grand Ave., Wausau**

**M & W 9-5, T & Th 9-7:30, F 9-5:30**

## Monthly Board Meeting

For  
Ho-Chunk Housing and Community  
Development Agency (HUD)

Thursday, October 25, 2012 • 6:00 PM  
HHCA at Tomah,  
corner of Monowau Street & Sime Avenue

Agenda items by noon, Oct. 12, 2012  
Contact Board Secretary at Ext. 222  
HHCA (608) 374-1245 Ext. 222 Fax: (608) 374-1251

## Tomah VA Medical Center Drive-Thru Flu Clinics

**Tuesday October 16th, 2012**  
**9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**And**

**Saturday October 27th, 2012**  
**10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

Who is eligible for Drive-Thru Flu Clinic:

- Veterans enrolled in VA healthcare
- Registered Tomah VA Volunteers
- VA employees

Bring appropriate ID. Enter on Tomah VA's 4th Street.

You may stay in your car. Dress appropriately so you can get your upper arm exposed.



Protect yourself and others, get your flu shot.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:  
Darci Kolb, FNP, Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Program Manager  
(608) 372-3971 Ext. 64097



# October Domestic Awareness Month

Oct. 1.....**MOMENT OF SILENTS 9am**

Wear **Purple** Day

The Day of Unity is celebrated the first Monday in October. NCADV hopes that events in communities and regions across the fifty states will culminate in a powerful statement celebrating the strength of battered women and their children.

Oct. 12.....**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WALK**

Tribal Office Building

Wear **Purple** Day

Oct. 15.....**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WALK**

House Of Wellness

Wear **Purple** Day

Oct. 18.....**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WALK**

Tomah

Wear **Purple** Day

Oct. 29.....Wear **Purple** Day



## Ho-Chunk Nation Domestic Violence Program

Pick up your purple ribbon at the front desks of:

**Social Service, Tribal Clinic**

**Tribal Office Building &  
House of Wellness**



## Tomah V.A. Medical Center invites you to our 2nd Annual Veterans Healthy Living Fair

**October 17th, 2012**

**Noon to 7:00 p.m.**

**Building 15 - V.A. Gym**

**\*Flu Shots available to Veterans**

**\*Blood Pressure screenings**

**\*Remember your Veterans ID card if you have one**



There will be over 30 tables with information including: healthy living, benefits and enrollment, diabetic management, stress management, tobacco cessation, weight management, pharmacy, home care services, mental health services, hospice, oral health, women's health, My HealtheVet, disease management, homelessness, VA job info, and much more.

**Please join us!**

**\*County Veteran Service Officers will be available**

**\*Vet Center staff will be on site**



Event Contact: Darci Kolb, FNP  
Health Promotion Disease Prevention Program  
(608) 372-3971 Ext. 64097



## Come for a visit



A group of social work students from University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point made a trip to Black River Falls to tour the Ho-Chunk Nation facilities and to learn about the services offered from the Nation. Dr. Alton "Sonny" Smart (far left) is the professor of the group. This is the fourth time that Dr. Smart has brought students for the tour.

## Happy Birthday Patrick



Love family and friends

## Gisewie Bobbi Yellowbank

A daughter  
**Gisewie Bobbi Yellowbank**  
was born to  
**Deanna Munson and Robert U. Yellowbank**  
of Charlevoix and Petoskey,  
on August 9th at the  
McLaren Northern  
Michigan Hospital,  
Petoskey, Michigan.

Gisewie is pictured here  
in a traditional moss bag.

Proud grandparents:  
**Alice and Bob Yellowbank**  
of Oden, Michigan.



## In Loving Memory of Keracoinga

**Emma M. (Snowball) Decorah**



Emma passed away on October 21, 2011, nearly one year ago. Her family would like to express their sincerest gratitude to the people who offered them support and care during those days, up to now. The first thank you goes to Mann John and family for compassion he showed while taking care of services. Then we would like to thank Leslie Falcon, Joanne Falcon, Roseann Mann, and Manda Mann.

Thank you to the casket bearers. Thank you to the Andrew Blackhawk Post 129 Women's Auxiliary for the ceremony they performed during the funeral services and for the meal they provided after the burial.

Emma passed away in the Pine View Care Center under the care of Black River Falls Memorial Hospice. There were several individuals who visited her there, some of which are; Anna Funmaker, Carole Whitethunder, Betty LaMere, Myrtle Long, the late Harriet Funmaker, Millie Decorah, Pierre Decorah, Jr., Nettie Kingsley, Betty Radcliffe and many more. Thank you goes out to Suzie Coffey for sitting up all night with us the night before Emma passed. Thank you to the individuals who sent CDs of NAC songs and Powwow songs, which were constantly playing after we received them.

She was extremely proud of her HoCak name. Keracoinga translates to 'Blue Sky' in English. Days when there is not a cloud in the sky, her family is reminded of her. Emma's granddaughter and pride and joy, Lanee Verna Van Riper was given this name by Christopher Decorah during Lanee's first birthday and baptism.

Thank you from the bottoms of our hearts! Sincerely, Ardith Van Riper, Lucasta Snowball, and Sandy Martin

First Memorial Services for Emma Decorah will be held on October 20, 2012. Dinner will be at 5:00 PM with meeting to follow at the Ho-Chunk District One Community Center in Black River Falls, Wisconsin.

# Attention Hunters!

## Dates to Remember:

**Bow**

**Gun**

**Muzzleloader**

**September 15 – November 15**

**November 17 – January 6, 2013**

**November 17 – November 25**

**November 26 – December 5**

**\*\*Review the 2011 Wisconsin Deer Hunting Regulations for additional details.\*\***

**2012 HCN Hunting Packets are now available.**

**Please contact or stop into the HCN DNR office to get a copy.**

**(800) 944-1652**





# Mother and son collaborate on art projects

Sherman Funmaker  
Interim Editor

The idea of working on projects with her son came from an art teacher while taking classes at UW La Crosse. Mandy Smith-Youngthunder, the daughter of Marsha Littlejohn Smith, and her three year-old son Creighton spend as much alone time as they can in front of a canvas creating pieces of art that relaxes her and teaches him.

Most of us instinctually know that art is important for our children; we simply believe it's important because we've seen children deeply involved in art. But beyond what we feel and believe, there is much factual information about why art is important in our children's development that is both interesting and helpful to know. Creating art expands a child's ability to interact with the world around them, and provides a new set of skills for self-expression and communication.

Mandy believes her son will benefit from these types of creative activities. She said that when she breaks out the canvas and paints she can't get the paints mixed fast enough for him. He enjoys these times and she said it

seems to relax him. This time together has not only brought them closer but has given this mom a look into young Creighton's personality. Mandy believes this will help her son's hand-eye coordination, also his creative and critical thinking.

Many believe Art gives children a chance to openly communicate inner emotions or thoughts that they may be incapable of expressing verbally at an early stage in their psychological, emotional, and verbal development.

Children often perceive the world around them in images first, before being given the opportunity to learn meaning and significance, which are abstract concepts that require a higher degree of mental understanding and conception.

Children who are given the opportunity to communicate through their artwork benefit from the ability to create something of their own, encouraging self-esteem.

Art has been in Mandy's life since she was a child and although she has gone through several changes in interests she is still involved in art and creating pieces of art. She says nowadays she would like to get more into metal smith work.

She recalls as a youngster drawing personalities and cartoon characters and even at one point wishing to be an animator for the Disney Company. She said that dream didn't last that long and eventually lost interest in animation all together.

Her mom and grandmother still have the portraits of them she drew when she was in the fourth grade. Back then she liked copying what she saw. She remembers starting with a

number two pencil and eventually got away from drawing and moved to painting. In college she started with charcoal and moved to acrylic and oils.

A graduate of La Crosse Logan High, she decided after her graduation she wanted to get out of town so she enrolled at a private art school, Corcoran College of Art Design in Washington D.C.

While there she earned her Masters of Arts and Teaching degree.

She explains she took a



Creighton applying paint on canvas.



The young artist creating his masterpiece.



One of the almost-finished pieces of mother and son.

break from the arts for a while after a high school teacher said something to her that caused her to back off for several years, but an art appreciation class later at UW LaCrosse she got her fired up again about creating.

Today she has taken time now to raise her son and this painting with him has been a welcome substitute to keep

her involved in creating. She said the process of their painting together starts with her applying several layers of paint and then she would let her son go at it. She said he likes drumming so he drums the paint on and after he would finish she would apply the final touches on the painting and coming up with the finished product.

She said they really only

have a few finished paintings that they did together and has had offers to buy them, but selling any work for now seems out of the question.

Today Mandy works for the Nation as an Academic Advisor in the Education Department and hopes one day she be able to spend more time creating, spending time with family and appreciating the beauty all around her.

*Continued from Page 9*

## Irene Keenan Jr.

she was playing and writing songs.

Much has happened since then and after years of performing, singing and writing she hasn't slowed down much. She has recently recorded her fifth session and continues to write and perform in the area.

She has fond memories of how she got here today and there is no slowing down for this performer. Between recording and performing she has kept busy and continues to write songs.

How to describe your sound?

I've been struggling with this for years. I have a blues sound to my vocal approach but I love rock and roll. Blues and rock background is the closest description I can come up with.

What do you love about

music?

It's a language that crosses all barriers. It doesn't matter if you understand what is being said or not. I will listen to stuff from other countries or ethnicities and I don't know what they are saying but I can feel it and they paint a picture with sound and I love that and I can feel what they are trying to relay. I love the message that sound and melodies relays. I feel it brings people together. The diversity that everyone can relate to through a music seems to bring people together. I like the magic that everyone can relate to it, it's from the soul.

How do you feel about Native American music?

I think it's great but we need a big name out there representing Indians. I am amazed at how our youth look up to black performers and other people other than Natives. I think we need more Natives artists for the kids to

look up to.

When did you start your first band?

I started my band when I was twelve. We played Pat Benatar and stuff like that. That was in Northern Wisconsin.

How many albums have you put out up to now?

I have put out three cassettes and two CD's.

Who does your band consist of today?

I play with some older guys who have been playing for a while. One guitar player actually won Grammy's with Bill Miller. He actually produced Bill Miller's work and is the producer of my latest album. His name is Mike Von Muchow. Jimbo Zil is the other guitar player. He owns a local guitar shop and is a local legend. Both of these guys are really good. My bass player is a young guy named Colin Johnson. My drummer is a guy I met before I knew he

was a drummer. He tended bar where I used hang out once in a while and we would talk about music and through a series of events we ended up finding out he was a drummer and soon became a member of the band.

What type of guitars do you play?

I play a Martin acoustic with Fishman pickup, a Fender Telecaster and a Gibson Blueshawk. I also play this aluminum guitar called a Normandy. It weighs like 15 or 20 pounds. I am just trying to figure out when I can start playing it. It looks like a mirror.

Where are you heading for musically?

I would like to write that one song that pays for the rest of my life whether I sing it or not. I'm really into the writing aspect. I don't care if I'm the performer of it or not. If you got a good song and a story to tell, that to me is most impor-

tant. I just love performing and that will never die. I'm really about a good song.

What is coming up for you and the band?

I just recently finished a video called "Goodbye to Houston" you can see it on YouTube. It's about Houston, Minnesota. I have some solo shows coming up.

**Saturday October 13th, 2012 - Solo Show**

Porky's  
201 S Eau Claire St  
Mondovi, WI 54755

**Sunday November 4th, 2012 - Solo Show**

Poo's On The Pond  
17643 50th Avenue  
Chippewa Falls, WI

**Saturday December 8th, 2012 6:00-10:00 Solo Gig**

Amber Grill and Restaurant  
1001 Amber Avenue  
Stevens Point, WI